

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

OFFICIAL RECORDS, 1986

PLENARY MEETINGS

VOLUME I

*Summary records of the meetings held during
the organizational session for 1986
and the first regular session of 1986*



UNITED NATIONS

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UNITED NATIONS

New York, 1990

NOTE

The *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1986* consist of the summary records of *Plenary Meetings*, incorporating corrections requested by delegations and any necessary editorial modifications, the *Supplements* (Nos. 1-14) and the *Lists of Delegations*.

The present volume contains the final summary records of the plenary meetings held by the Council during its organizational session for 1986 (New York, 4-7 February) and its first regular session of 1986 (New York, 29 April-23 May).

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Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

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In 1986, the Economic and Social Council was composed of the following fifty-four Member States: ARGENTINA, AUSTRALIA, BANGLADESH, BELGIUM, BRAZIL, BYELORUSSIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC, CANADA, CHINA, COLOMBIA, COSTA RICA, DJIBOUTI, EGYPT, FINLAND, FRANCE, GABON, GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, GERMANY, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF, GUINEA, GUYANA, HAITI, ICELAND, INDIA, INDONESIA, IRAQ, ITALY, JAMAICA, JAPAN, MOROCCO, MOZAMBIQUE, NIGERIA, PAKISTAN, PANAMA, PAPUA NEW GUINEA, PERU, PHILIPPINES, POLAND, ROMANIA, RWANDA, SENEGAL, SIERRA LEONE, SOMALIA, SPAIN, SRI LANKA, SWEDEN, SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC, TURKEY, UGANDA, UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS, UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, VENEZUELA, YUGOSLAVIA, ZAIRE and ZIMBABWE.

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ABBREVIATIONS

ACC	Advisory Committee on Co-ordination
ANC	African National Congress of South Africa
ASEAN	Association of South-East Asian Nations
CERD	Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
CIA	Central Intelligence Agency (United States)
CPC	Committee for Programme and Co-ordination
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GDP	gross domestic product
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IMO	International Maritime Organization
INSTRAW	International Training and Research Institute for Women
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
PLO	Palestine Liberation Organization
SWAPO	South West Africa People's Organization
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Fund for Population Activities
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNITA	União Nacional para a Independência Total de Angola
UPU	Universal Postal Union
WHO	World Health Organization
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organization

AGENDA OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION FOR 1986

Adopted by the Council at its 1st plenary meeting, on 4 February 1986

1. Election of the Bureau
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters
3. Basic programme of work of the Council for 1986 and 1987
4. Elections to subsidiary bodies of the Council, appointments, and confirmation of representatives on the functional commissions and on the Sessional Working Group of Governmental Experts on the Implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
5. Provisional agenda for the first regular session of 1986 and other organizational matters

AGENDA OF THE FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF 1986

Adopted by the Council at its 5th plenary meeting, on 29 April 1986

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters
2. Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination
3. Implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
4. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
5. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
6. University for Peace
7. Population questions
8. International co-operation in tax matters
9. Human rights
10. United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons
11. Advancement of women
12. Social development
13. Narcotic drugs
14. Elections and nominations
15. Consideration of the provisional agenda for the second regular session of 1986

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E/1986/1 and Add.1	Draft basic programme of work of the Council for 1986 and 1987	3	
E/1986/2	Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters	2	
E/1986/5 and Add.1	Election of seven members of the International Narcotics Control Board under the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol: note by the Secretary-General	4	
E/1986/7	Preparation of a system-wide medium-term plan for women and development: note by the Secretariat	2	
E/1986/9	Appointment of a member of the Committee for Development Planning: note by the Secretary-General	4	
E/1986/10	Interim election to fill one vacancy on the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control: note by the Secretary-General	4	
E/1986/11	Letter dated 20 December 1985 from the Director-General of the World Intellectual Property Organization to the Secretary-General	2	
E/1986/12 and Add.1	Elections to subsidiary bodies of the Council, appointments, and confirmation of representatives on the functional commissions and on the Sessional Working Group of Governmental Experts on the Implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights: note by the Secretary-General	4	
E/1986/45	Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies: draft annex relating to the United Nations Industrial Development Organization: note by the Secretary-General	2	
E/1986/46	Letter dated 3 February 1986 from the Chairman of the Commission on Transnational Corporations at its special session to the President of the Economic and Social Council	2	
E/1986/INF/1	Calendar of conferences and meetings for 1986: note by the Secretariat		
E/1986/INF/2 and Add.1	List of representatives to the organizational session for 1986		
E/1986/INF/3	Decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its organizational session for 1986		For the printed text, see <i>Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1986, Supplement No. 1 (E/1986/86)</i> , decisions 1986/101-1986/116
E/1986/L.9 and Add.1	Draft decisions proposed by the President, on behalf of the Bureau of the Council, on the basis of informal consultations	2	
E/1986/SR.1 to 4	Provisional summary records of the plenary meetings held by the Council during its organizational session for 1986		The final texts of the records are contained in the present volume
E/1986/WP.1	Review of recurrent and other documentation to be submitted to the Economic and Social Council in 1986: note by the Secretariat	3	
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A/41/38 and Corr.2	Report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on the work of its twenty-sixth session	7	<i>Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 38 and corrigendum</i>
A/41/45 and Corr.1	Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women	4	<i>Ibid.</i> , Supplement No. 45 and corrigendum
A/CONF.121/22/Rev.1	<i>Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Milan, 26 August-6 September 1985: report prepared by the Secretariat</i>	12	United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IV.1
A/CONF.133/PC/6 and Add.1	Report of the preparatory body for the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking on its first session	13	

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E/1986/18-A/41/179	Follow-up to General Assembly resolution 39/228 on the International Conference on Population: report of the Secretary-General	7	
E/1986/19	Work of the <i>Ad Hoc</i> Group of Experts on International Co-operation in Tax Matters: report of the Secretary-General	8	
E/1986/20	Regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Asian region: note by the Secretary-General	9	
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E/1986/22	Report of the Commission on Human Rights on its forty-second session (3 February–14 March 1986)	9	<i>Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1986, Supplement No. 2</i>
E/1986/23	Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its ninth special session (10–14 February 1986)	13	<i>Ibid., Supplement No. 3</i>
E/1986/24 and Corr.1 and 2	Report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its thirty-first session (24 February–5 March 1986)	11	<i>Ibid., Supplement No. 4 and corrigenda</i>
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E/1986/44	States parties to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and status of the submission of reports in accordance with the programme established by the Economic and Social Council in resolution 1988 (LX): note by the Secretary-General	3	
E/1986/47 and Add.1	Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women: note by the Secretary-General	14	
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E/1986/49	Report of the Sessional Working Group of Governmental Experts on the Implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	3	
E/1986/51	Election of members of the International Narcotics Control Board under the provisions of article 9, paragraph 1(a), of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol: note by the Secretary-General	14	
E/1986/52	Election of members of the International Narcotics Control Board under the provisions of article 9, paragraph 1(b) of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol: note by the Secretary-General	14	
E/1986/53-A/41/181	Letter dated 19 February 1986 from the representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the Secretary-General	2	
E/1986/54-A/41/189	Letter dated 27 February 1986 from the representative of Israel to the Secretary-General	9	
E/1986/56-A/41/213	Letter dated 11 March 1986 from the representative of the German Democratic Republic to the Secretary-General	9	
E/1986/57	Letter dated 10 March 1986 from the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany to the President of the Economic and Social Council	1	
E/1986/60	Implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights: note by the Secretary-General	3	
E/1986/68	Letter dated 22 April 1986 from the Chairman of the Commission on Transnational Corporations to the President of the Economic and Social Council	1	
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E/1986/76	Letter dated 3 April 1986 from the President of the Trade and Development Board to the President of the Economic and Social Council	1	
E/1986/78	Letter dated 5 May 1986 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Israel addressed to the Secretary-General	11	
E/1986/79	Report of the Secretary-General on an international year for the mobilization of financial and technological resources to increase food and agricultural production in Africa: note by the Secretariat	15	
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E/1986/111	Letter dated 16 May 1986 from the Chairman of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination at its twenty-sixth session to the President of the Economic and Social Council	11	
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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION FOR 1986

Summary records of the 1st to 4th plenary meetings, held at Headquarters,
New York, from 4 to 7 February 1986

1st meeting

Tuesday, 4 February 1986, at 12.25 p.m.

Temporary President: Mr. Jean RIPERT (Director-General for
Development and International Economic Co-operation)

President: Mr. Manuel DOS SANTOS (Mozambique)

E/1986/SR.1

Opening of the session

1. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT declared open the organizational session for 1986 of the Economic and Social Council and paid a tribute to Mr. Tomohiko Kobayashi (Japan), President of the Council in 1985, and to the other members of the outgoing Bureau.

AGENDA ITEM 1

Election of the Bureau

2. Mr. KOUASSI (Observer for Togo), speaking on behalf of the Group of African States, nominated Mr. Manuel Dos Santos (Mozambique) for the office of President of the Council.

Mr. Manuel Dos Santos (Mozambique) was elected President by acclamation.

Mr. Dos Santos (Mozambique) took the Chair.

3. The PRESIDENT expressed his appreciation for the honour which the Council had bestowed upon him and his country in electing him.

4. He expressed his gratitude for the material, political and moral support for Africa which the international community had provided in the face of the critical situation on that continent. He also expressed appreciation for the solidarity with the front-line States in southern Africa recently demonstrated by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Nordic countries and of the States members of the European Economic Community.

5. In accordance with rule 18 of the rules of procedure, the Council was required to elect four Vice-Presidents. He had been informed that, on the basis of informal consultations among the regional groups, the following candidates had been proposed: Mr. Eugeniusz Noworyta (Poland) and Mr. David Samudio (Panama).

Mr. Eugeniusz Noworyta (Poland) and Mr. David Samudio (Panama) were elected Vice-Presidents by acclamation.

6. The PRESIDENT said that election of the remaining two Vice-Presidents would be postponed to a later meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 2

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (E/1986/2, E/1986/5, E/1986/7, E/1986/11, E/1986/45, E/1986/46)

7. The PRESIDENT drew the Council's attention to the annotated provisional agenda for its organizational session for 1986 (E/1986/2). The Council also had before it a note by the Secretary-General (E/1986/45) concerning the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies, which contained a draft annex relating to the United Nations Industrial Development Organization. In addition, the Chairman of the Commission on Transnational Corporations at its special session had sent a letter (E/1986/46) to the President of the Council concerning the draft code of conduct on transnational corporations. He suggested that the Council should consider those two questions in due course under item 2.

8. If there were no objections, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the provisional agenda, with the inclusion of the two questions to which he had just referred.

The agenda was adopted.

AGENDA ITEM 3

Basic programme of work of the Council for 1986 and 1987 (E/1986/1 and Add.1)

9. Mr. RIPERT (Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation)

introduced the draft basic programme of work of the Council for 1986 and 1987 (E/1986/1 and Add.1) prepared by the Secretary-General and said that at its current session the Council should, when elaborating its programme of work for the coming two years, bear in mind the renewed commitment of Member States to the objectives of the United Nations and their desire to see the activities of the Organization correspond more fully to the requirements of the international community.

10. The list of items to be considered by the Council during 1986 (E/1986/1) was too long, and the Council should be very selective at its current session and single out certain items for more thorough consideration. The Council's recent practice of focusing on priority items had proved very useful. He hoped that the Council would be able one year in advance to identify items to be given priority at the first regular session of the coming year, so that the Secretariat would have adequate time for the required preparations.

11. At its second regular session of 1986, the Council would be evaluating the results, *inter alia*, of the special session of the General Assembly on Africa, the decisions on matters pending under the item on development and international economic co-operation which the Second Committee might adopt during the continuation of the fortieth session of the Assembly, and the session of the Trade and Development Board. The assessment process would be enhanced if Council delegations at that session included more representatives from national ministries of economic affairs and, as he had already suggested, meetings at the ministerial level would also be highly desirable.

12. Noting the prevailing international consensus in favour of growth-oriented strategies, he said that the Council should consider whether current policies were conducive to a sustained growth rate, particularly for the purpose of generating employment. He had the impression that the current debate on the subject focused excessively on certain variables and thought that it should be broader in scope, covering, among other things, structural imbalances in the world economy, such as those affecting raw materials, and in particular, energy sources.

13. He suggested that, at the second regular session, the Council should undertake in plenary meetings its comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development undertaken by the United Nations system.

14. He also urged the Council to give serious consideration to the possibility of streamlining its documentation, in keeping with the measures adopted by the Secretary-General to that end. He wished to reiterate the suggestions he had made to the Council in 1985 regarding the simplification of documentation, in the hope that decisions would be taken on them. First, in cases where reports of intergovernmental bodies were to be considered in depth by the General Assembly, only recommendations directly addressed to the Council could be circulated; secondly, similar arrangements could be made for Secretariat reports; thirdly, some Secretariat reports could be the object only of an oral presentation at the second regular session of the Council; and, lastly, the Council should identify which Secretariat reports could be submitted biennially rather than annually.

15. With regard to an item not on the Council's agenda, he recalled that the General Assembly had requested the Secretary-General to submit recommendations regarding the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development by 1 March. No generally acceptable solution had yet emerged from the difficult negotiations on the subject. He urged Member States to focus on the proposals submitted by the Secretariat in the light of consultations held during the fortieth session of the General Assembly and since its suspension. If no agreement was reached on immediate measures pertaining to the Financing System, the pledging conference scheduled for April might not yield satisfactory results.

16. Mr. GOLOB (Yugoslavia), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77, said that the Economic and Social Council was called upon to make a substantial contribution to solving the urgent problems posed by the current world economic situation, which was a source of growing concern, especially for the developing countries. The Council had a duty to promote the renewal of the North-South dialogue; the latter was indispensable for international co-operation and the lack of progress in that regard was widely felt. In addition, the Council must help to revive the consensus on development and consider ways and means of providing assistance to the developing countries and of injecting a new dynamism into the world economy. The Council's agenda for 1986 addressed all the major economic and social issues, and he hoped that they would be given the consideration they deserved. In that regard, the Council could count on the full co-operation of the Group of 77.

17. Mr. ZVEZDIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the organizational session had the task of determining the basic programme of work of the Council for 1986 and 1987 and would therefore set the tone for all the social and economic activities of the United Nations during the coming biennium. In that regard, it was important to bear in mind the lessons of the work of the United Nations economic bodies during the past year. In particular, the fortieth session of the General Assembly had reflected a greater understanding by many States of the real causes of the exacerbation of the world economic crisis and of the continued obstacles to the restructuring of international economic relations on a just and democratic basis. Representatives of the developing countries had emphasized that the world economy was suffering from stagnation and inequality and that the arms race posed an unprecedented danger to mankind, involving the squandering of economic resources at a time when millions of people suffered from poverty and hunger. Participants in the session had also criticized the policy of high interest rates, the artificial lowering of prices for raw materials, protectionism and other methods of exploitation and discrimination in world trade which added to the economic problems of the developing countries.

18. At its fortieth session, the General Assembly had adopted a number of important resolutions concerning the current state of international economic relations and ways of further developing the economic activities of the United Nations. Furthermore, the work of the United Nations economic bodies in 1985 had shown that the overwhelming majority of States rejected attempts to present the situation in those bodies as a kind of "crisis of multilateralism" and, under that pretext, to impose

the idea of a so-called "new economic consensus". Such ideas merely reflected the desire of their supporters to negate all the positive results achieved in the economic activities of the United Nations in recent years, to turn those activities to the benefit of a small group of countries and to nullify the progressive decisions of the United Nations on the restructuring of international economic relations, including the establishment of a new international economic order and the development of equitable co-operation in the interests of all States.

19. The Soviet Union would continue to participate constructively in the economic activities of the United Nations and seek to ensure that they responded to the urgent needs of all countries and peoples. Further testimony to that consistent policy was contained in the memorandum of the Soviet Government, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-first session, entitled "International economic security of States—a major condition for the improvement of international economic relations" (A/41/118, appendix).

20. His delegation had no objection to the Council's proposed basic programme of work for 1986 and 1987, as a whole, as set forth in documents E/1986/1 and Add.1. However, it should be remembered that the inclusion of any given question in that programme of work did not necessarily ensure its effective consideration or the achievement of practical results. Past experience had often shown that organizational measures were insufficient if not all Member States demonstrated the political will to consider the complex issues of international economic relations in a constructive spirit and to find solutions for them.

21. Among the tasks facing the Council in 1986, great importance was attached to the implementation of General Assembly resolution 40/10 concerning the observance of the International Year of Peace. In accordance with its role under the Charter of the United Nations, the Council should envisage appro-

priate measures in its programme of work and help to co-ordinate the activities of United Nations economic bodies and the specialized agencies with a view to implementing that resolution.

22. The Council should also play a more active co-ordinating role with a view to broadening the contribution of the specialized agencies to the promotion of disarmament in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 38/188 J and 39/151 E. That area of the Council's work was especially important in view of the international community's growing understanding of the fact that real steps to halt the arms race and reduce armaments were a pre-condition for solving increasingly acute global problems such as overcoming economic backwardness, finding new sources of energy and protecting the environment. The Soviet Union, together with the other socialist countries, consistently advocated such an approach to world affairs, and that position was set forth clearly in the statement made on 15 January 1986 by the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, which contained a programme for ridding mankind of nuclear weapons by the year 2000.

23. Mrs. CASTRO DE BARISH (Costa Rica) pointed out that, as indicated in documents E/1986/1 and E/1986/2, the Council's attention was drawn to General Assembly resolution 40/10 on the Programme of the International Year of Peace. At its organizational session, it was both appropriate and necessary for the Council to decide how to respond to the request contained in that resolution. She suggested that during the session the Council might wish to decide that, pursuant to resolution 40/10, it reiterated its support for the proclamation of the International Year of Peace contained in General Assembly resolution 40/3 and reaffirmed its intention to co-operate, within the sphere of its competence, in the promotion of peace during the Year and beyond it.

The meeting rose at 1.25 p.m.

2nd meeting

Tuesday, 4 February 1986, at 3.35 p.m.

President: Mr. Manuel DOS SANTOS (Mozambique)

E/1986/SR.2

AGENDA ITEMS 2 AND 3

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (*continued*) (E/1986/2, E/1986/5, E/1986/7, E/1986/11, E/1986/45, E/1986/46)

Basic programme of work of the Council for 1986 and 1987 (*continued*) (E/1986/1 and Add.1)

1. The PRESIDENT said that, before considering the items on the agenda, the Council should briefly consider the organization of work for the current session. In the past few years, it had become established practice to consider the draft basic programme of work of the Council in informal meetings. However, delegations wishing to make general statements

on the issues before the Council at the current meeting were free to do so.

2. He intended to request one of the Vice-Presidents to undertake informal consultations, in an open-ended working group the following afternoon, on the review of recurrent documentation submitted to the Council and procedures for considering reports submitted to the Council and/or its subsidiary bodies.

3. At the first regular session of 1986, the Council would be called upon to elect seven members of the International Narcotics Control Board. It had been the practice to establish a Committee on Candidatures comprising 12 to 15 States whose task it would be to select, from the list of nominees, persons to be elected to the Board. Australia, Canada, Hungary, Poland, Turkey, the Union of Soviet Socialist Repub-

lics, the United Kingdom and the United States had already indicated their interest in serving on the Committee. Delegations wishing to serve on the Committee were requested to communicate their names to the Secretariat as soon as possible.

4. In accordance with Council decision 1982/174, the executive secretaries of the regional commissions had recommended that the topic entitled "The joint programme of the regional commissions to promote interregional co-operation with emphasis on the operational aspects" should be considered under the item on regional co-operation at the second regular session of 1986.

5. In a letter addressed to the presiding officers of intergovernmental bodies concerning problems relating to the United Nations budget, the Secretary-General sought support for reducing expenditure and requested the Council to review its calendar of meetings and their venues in order to ensure that travel and associated costs were kept to a minimum. In the letter in question, the Secretary-General also indicated that full advantage should be taken of United Nations facilities in the headquarters cities and that limits on the number and duration of meetings, on the documentation produced and on the reports requested should be set, and, where established, strictly maintained. Moreover, a note verbale on the question of the control and limitation of documentation and meeting costs, dated 22 January 1986, had been addressed to all permanent missions.

6. Mr. MOUSOURIS (Assistant Secretary-General for Secretariat Services for Economic and Social Matters) said that, on behalf of the Secretary-General, he wished to report to the Council on the action taken in accordance with Council resolution 1985/55 on the improvement of secretariat servicing and substantive support services for the Committee on Natural Resources. Given its responsibility for providing technical secretariat services for the Council's subsidiary machinery, the Office of Secretariat Services for Economic and Social Matters would serve as lead office and focal point for: communication with interested delegations on meetings documentation and proceedings and the times and venues of meetings; organizing and co-ordinating provision of support services, particularly documentation from the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development and other relevant United Nations entities; and organizing informal pre-session contacts with interested delegations on documentation and other relevant matters. The Office was available to assist delegations in all matters relating to the Committee on Natural Resources. It would channel substantive questions to the relevant substantive offices. The two major secretariat entities that shared responsibility for the preparation of documentation and the provision of substantive secretariat support for the Committee were the two departments to which he had just referred. The Secretary-General had assigned the responsibility for preparing individual reports to them, and they had established procedures for exchanging with one another drafts, comments and information for the preparation of such reports.

7. Mr. GAJENTAAN (Observer for the Netherlands), speaking on behalf of the European Economic Community, said that the States members of the European Economic Community endorsed the draft basic programme of work of the Council for 1986

and 1987. They had noted with interest the suggestions put forward by the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation at the previous meeting and hoped that due account would be taken of them.

8. Ms. FANG Ping (China) said that her delegation would consider carefully the useful suggestions made by the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation. It believed that the Commission on Transnational Corporations should be authorized to reconvene its special session for one day.

9. Mr. OULD CHEIKH EL GAOUTHE (Observer for Mauritania) said that he wished to express his Government's gratitude for the support provided by a large number of Member States in connection with the question of consideration by the Committee for Development Planning of the possible inclusion of Mauritania in the list of the least developed countries.

10. The Council was fully aware of the impact of natural disasters on the Mauritanian economy. The severe drought, combined with a whole series of other economic constraints, was jeopardizing his country's reconstruction, rehabilitation, recovery and development efforts. The various analyses and studies carried out by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) provided a useful basis for consideration of the situation in Mauritania. However, he wished to point out that although, according to studies available at the international level, Mauritania had a GDP of \$40, there were indications that there would be a marked reduction in GDP in the future owing to a number of new factors. Moreover, the estimates of the size of the Mauritanian population made by the World Bank and the IMF were lower than the official figure for 1985, which implied a reduction of approximately 5 per cent in Mauritania's GDP. It must also be borne in mind that Mauritania had a dual economy and that the standard of living of the majority of the population was considerably lower than that reflected in the per capita GDP. The continuing drought, which was affecting over 80 per cent of the country, had exacerbated migration from the countryside and thus increased urban unemployment. The transport and communications infrastructure remained inadequate, despite major investment in recent years. The financing of that infrastructure was a large component of Mauritania's foreign debt which, in comparative terms, was now the highest in Africa, if not in the world. Furthermore, Mauritania was the African country most affected by drought.

11. Mr. NOWORYTA (Poland) said that the proclamation by the General Assembly of 1986 as the International Year of Peace was a major challenge and it was appropriate that the Council should devote significant attention in its work to the promotion of the ideas on which the International Year of Peace was based. There was a close link between international peace and security, on the one hand, and development and international economic co-operation, on the other. It was urgent to normalize international economic relations and to promote trade and other forces of co-operation among countries on a just and democratic basis. It was in that spirit that Poland had put forward suggestions concerning confidence-building in international economic relations.

12. Many of the topics that were to be dealt with by the Council in 1986 and 1987 derived from the proceedings of the fortieth session of the General Assembly, at which considerable attention had been devoted to the interrelated problems of trade, money, finance, debt and development. In that connection, he wished to recall the fact that, in his address before the General Assembly, the Prime Minister of Poland had indicated that it would be desirable to establish, under the aegis of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, an international debt and development research centre and that eminent experts representing the Governments directly concerned could participate in the centre's work. The Council should take due account of that idea in its work.

13. Furthermore, his delegation supported the inclusion in the Council's programme of work for 1986 and 1987 of an item concerning the examination of long-term trends in economic development, on the basis of General Assembly resolution 40/207. It also wished to suggest that the Council and/or its relevant subsidiary bodies should consider questions relating to the unrestricted flow of modern technologies in the field of protection of the environment.

14. It was a matter of concern to his delegation that the Commission for Social Development met only on a biennial basis and only for a short period, with the result that basic problems relating to social development could not be considered in depth. It was therefore appropriate that in resolution 40/98 the General Assembly had invited the Council to consider, at its first regular session of 1986, existing ways and means of improving the work of the Commission.

15. Mr. FAREED (Pakistan) said that the Committee on Candidatures referred to in paragraph 6 of document E/1986/5 was redundant. As that paragraph indicated, it had been the practice of the Council, rather than a mandate, to establish such a committee.

16. He supported Mauritania's request to be included in the list of the least developed countries but believed that clear criteria for inclusion were required in order to enable the Committee for Development Planning to examine legitimate requests properly. The Council should therefore provide appropriate guidelines.

17. As for the improvement of secretariat servicing and substantive support services for the Committee on Natural Resources, the Assistant Secretary-General for Secretariat Services for Economic and Social Matters had indicated no new elements in his statement. Although he had referred to two major secretariat entities that shared responsibility for the preparation of documentation and the provision of substantive support, he had failed to indicate what had been done to strengthen their capacity to service the Committee. The only new element was that those entities had been assigned responsibility for preparing individual reports and had established procedures for exchanging with one another drafts, comments and information for the preparation of such reports.

18. Mr. LEE (Canada) said that more information was needed on how secretariat servicing and substantive support services for the Committee on Natural Resources could be improved.

19. Mauritania's request for inclusion in the list of least developed countries deserved sympathetic con-

sideration, but the whole question of criteria for inclusion must be clarified.

20. He was especially interested in the preparation of a system-wide medium-term plan for women and development and the need for an agenda item on that subject. He also attached great importance to another major topic for the current year, namely the triennial review of organizational activities. The Council should organize its work so as to allow delegations enough time at the second regular session for thorough consideration of the preparation of the medium-term plan, without which no good positive results could be expected. It should also be borne in mind that other agenda items were also linked to the item on women and development.

21. He endorsed the view that the principle of taking full advantage of United Nations facilities in the headquarters cities must be respected in scheduling meetings, as part of overall efforts to economize.

22. He also agreed with the statement made by the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation at the previous meeting on the need for the Council to focus its attention on a number of priority items at both its first and its second regular sessions.

23. Lastly, in connection with the report of the Trade and Development Board, everything possible should be done to rationalize the Board's work as early as possible along the lines being discussed at Geneva.

24. Mr. RAHMAN (Bangladesh) said that the Council had adopted the practice of establishing a Committee on Candidatures in order to facilitate elections to the International Narcotics Control Board. That practice should be abandoned only if an alternative that was satisfactory to all parties concerned could be developed.

25. In the past, the Committee for Development Planning had dealt with requests from interested countries for inclusion in the list of least developed countries by applying the existing criteria flexibly and judiciously with a resultant increase in the number of countries included in that category, and it would unquestionably continue to do so. As to the possibility of revising those criteria, the Council must continue to help the increasing number of countries concerned and should not do anything self-defeating. Specific programmes and targets had been adopted with certain criteria and certain countries in mind, and those criteria must be respected. Moreover, the Council must implement its programme and allow the Committee for Development Planning to use its judgement.

26. Mr. ZOLLER (Australia) said he agreed with the views expressed by previous speakers on requests for inclusion in the list of least developed countries and the criteria applied by the Committee for Development Planning. He also supported Mauritania's application for inclusion in that list. However, it was regrettable that the requests made by Tuvalu and Kiribati had both been rejected by the Committee because expatriate income had raised their GDP above the cut-off line. Those two countries were fully qualified because without expatriate income they were well within the GDP limits. He hoped that flexibility would prevail in the Committee when their cases were resubmitted.

27. Mr. DIECKMANN (Federal Republic of Germany) said that he fully supported the observations of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation (1st meeting) with regard to encouraging the Secretary-General's efforts to reduce the volume of documentation at Headquarters. The list of topics under the heading "General discussion of international economic and social policy, including regional and sectoral developments" was not an exhaustive one, since there were would be many other important items to be discussed in view of the fact that the Council's second regular session would take place after several major meetings in the international economic field. He hoped that the discussions would be lively, with a free exchange of views after the general debate.

28. Mr. FIELD (United Kingdom) said that he supported Australia's views on the inclusion of Kiribati and Tuvalu in the list of least developed countries. He hoped that the Committee for Development Planning would exercise flexibility in considering their socio-economic situation.

29. Mr. BROTDININGRAT (Indonesia) said that he hoped that the topics to be discussed at the joint meeting of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination would be selected early enough so that the Council would have time to consider them. The consideration of operational activities for development was particularly important.

30. Mr. MOUSOURIS (Assistant Secretary-General for Secretariat Services for Economic and Social Matters), responding to a point raised by the representative of Pakistan, said that the Office of Secretariat Services for Economic and Social Matters was taking a more active role with regard to, *inter alia*, the venues of meetings and providing information to delegations for future sessions of the Committee on Natural Resources. That was the reason for his earlier statement that the Office would serve as lead office and focal point.

AGENDA ITEM 1

Election of the Bureau (*continued*)

31. The PRESIDENT said that Mr. P. M. S. Malik (India) had been nominated for the office of Vice-President of the Council for 1986.

Mr. P. M. S. Malik (India) was elected Vice-President by acclamation.

32. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to postpone the election of the remaining Vice-President to a later meeting.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 5.10 p.m.

3rd meeting

Wednesday, 5 February 1986, at 10.55 a.m.

President: Mr. Manuel DOS SANTOS (Mozambique)

E/1986/SR.3

AGENDA ITEM 1

Election of the Bureau (*continued*)

1. The PRESIDENT invited the members of the Council to elect a Vice-President to fill the remaining vacancy on the Council Bureau for 1986. He had been informed that, as a result of informal consultations, Mr. Heinrich-Dietrich Dieckmann (Federal Republic of Germany) had been nominated for that office.

Mr. Heinrich-Dietrich Dieckmann (Federal Republic of Germany) was elected Vice-President by acclamation.

The meeting rose at 11 a.m.

4th meeting

Friday, 7 February 1986, at 3.25 p.m.

President: Mr. Manuel DOS SANTOS (Mozambique)

E/1986/SR.4

AGENDA ITEM 4

Elections to subsidiary bodies of the Council, appointments, and confirmation of representatives on the functional commissions and on the Sessional Working Group of Governmental Experts on the Implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (E/1986/9, E/1986/10, E/1986/12 and Add.1; E/1986/L.1, E/1986/L.2, E/1986/L.3/Rev.1, E/1986/L.4, E/1986/L.5, E/1986/L.6, E/1986/L.7, E/1986/L.8/Rev.1, E/1986/L.10)

COMMITTEE FOR DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

1. The PRESIDENT said that, as indicated in documents E/1986/2 and E/1986/9, a vacancy had occurred on the Committee for Development Planning owing to the resignation of Mr. Göran Ohlin (Sweden). The Secretary-General had nominated Mr. Just Faaland (Norway) for appointment in his personal capacity as a member of the Committee for Development Planning for a term beginning on the date of appointment and expiring on 31 December 1986.

2. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to appoint Mr. Faaland by acclamation.

*It was so decided.**

COMMITTEE ON CRIME PREVENTION AND CONTROL

3. The PRESIDENT said that, as indicated in documents E/1986/2 and E/1986/10, a vacancy had occurred on the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control owing to the resignation of Mr. André Bissonnette (Canada). The Government of Canada had proposed the candidature of Mr. Frederick Gibson to complete Mr. Bissonnette's term, from the date of election until 31 December 1986.

4. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to elect Mr. Gibson by acclamation.

*It was so decided.**

COMMISSION ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

5. The PRESIDENT, referring to the Commission on Human Settlements, said that the Secretariat had been informed by the Chairman of the Group of Eastern European States that the German Democratic Republic had been endorsed to fill the vacant seat reserved for that Group, for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1987.

6. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to elect the German Democratic Republic by acclamation.

*It was so decided.**

*See decision 1986/116.

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

7. The PRESIDENT, referring to the Committee on Natural Resources, said that the Secretariat had been informed by the Chairman of the Group of Latin American States that Panama wished to be a candidate for the vacant seat reserved for that Group, for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1988.

8. If he heard no objection, he would take it that, since there were no other candidates, the Council wished to elect Panama by acclamation.

*It was so decided.**

INTERGOVERNMENTAL WORKING GROUP OF EXPERTS ON INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS OF ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING

9. The PRESIDENT said that, in respect of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting, the Secretariat had been informed that Uruguay had been endorsed to fill one of the vacancies reserved for the Group of Latin American States, for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1988.

10. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to elect Uruguay by acclamation.

*It was so decided.**

11. The PRESIDENT, again referring to the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting, said that the Secretariat had been informed by Panama that it wished to be a candidate for another of the vacant seats reserved for the Group of Latin American States, for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1988.

12. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to elect Panama by acclamation.

*It was so decided.**

ELECTIONS POSTPONED FROM PREVIOUS SESSIONS

13. The PRESIDENT said that, as indicated in the annotated agenda (E/1986/2), there were additional vacancies, for which elections had been postponed at previous sessions, on the Commission for Social Development, the Commission on Human Settlements, the Committee on Natural Resources, the Commission on Transnational Corporations, the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting and the Sessional Working Group of Governmental Experts on the Implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

14. He proposed that, unless there were candidates for the remaining vacant posts, elections to fill those vacancies should be postponed until a future

session. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council agreed.

*It was so decided.**

CONFIRMATION OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE FUNCTIONAL COMMISSIONS AND ON THE SESSIONAL WORKING GROUP OF GOVERNMENTAL EXPERTS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS (E/1986/12 AND ADD.1)

15. The PRESIDENT drew the Council's attention to the note by the Secretary-General (E/1986/12 and Add.1) submitting to the Council for confirmation the names of the representatives on five of its six functional commissions, namely, the Statistical Commission, the Population Commission, the Commission for Social Development, the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission on the Status of Women, as well as on the Sessional Working Group of Governmental Experts on the Implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, which had been received since the closure of the organizational session for 1985.

16. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to confirm those nominations.

*It was so decided.**

17. The PRESIDENT said that the Council had concluded its consideration of agenda item 4.

AGENDA ITEMS 2 AND 3

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (concluded)

Basic programme of work of the Council for 1986 and 1987 (concluded)

QUESTION OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMITTEE ON CANDIDATURES IN CONNECTION WITH ELECTIONS TO FILL VACANCIES ON THE INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD**

18. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to resume consideration, under item 2, of the question of the Committee on Candidatures, which, if established, would select persons whom it considered particularly qualified from the list of nominees for membership of the International Narcotics Control Board, in the light of the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol thereto.

19. In that connection, the Secretariat had informed him that, on 4 December 1985, Venezuela had acceded to the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol, and should therefore be added to the list of States parties provided in annex IV of document E/1986/5.

20. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council, on the basis of a consensus reached during informal consultations, did not wish to establish a Committee on Candidatures.

It was so decided.

21. Mr. KUMLIN (Sweden) said that he had asked for the floor before the Council had adopted the decision in order to request additional time, since

many delegations did not seem to be in the room. However, if the other delegations were prepared to take a decision, his delegation would not stand in the way.

22. Mr. ALPTUNA (Turkey) said that his delegation would have preferred to have had more reliable and concrete evidence before taking a decision; however, it had decided to join in the consensus.

23. Mr. LAZAREVIĆ (Yugoslavia) said that, since a decision had already been taken, his delegation considered the subsequent statement by Sweden to be an explanation of vote.

24. Mr. HADID (Observer for Algeria) said that his delegation felt that the decision not to constitute a Committee on Candidatures should not be reopened. However, the past role of the Committee on Candidatures in acting as liaison between the members of the International Narcotics Control Board and the Council should be taken into account in future discussions.

25. Mr. KUMLIN (Sweden) said that his delegation was fully prepared to join in the consensus; however, he pointed out that the Committee had made valuable contributions in the past to the process of selecting members of the International Narcotics Control Board. The fact that the Committee had not been constituted at the current session should not preclude the possibility of establishing it in future. He noted that one major reason for not establishing the Committee was the need to adopt financial restraint.

26. Mrs. GREGORY (Canada), supported by Mr. DIECKMANN (Federal Republic of Germany), said that her delegation associated itself with Sweden, particularly with regard to limiting, wherever possible, the financial burdens on the system. Although her delegation had joined in the consensus on the decision, she wished to reiterate Canada's concern that more information should have been made available and to express the hope that the decision would not affect the integrity and quality of the International Narcotics Control Board.

27. Miss FRANKINET (Belgium) said that her delegation had joined in the consensus; however, it shared Canada's view that the decision had been based on incomplete information. She expressed the hope that, at the organizational session for 1987, brief and clear information on the usefulness of the Committee and its possible contribution would be made available.

28. Mr. FAREED (Pakistan) noted that the question of the establishment of a Committee on Candidatures would not be considered in 1987, but rather in 1988. He supported Algeria's view that the Committee's most significant contribution had been to provide linkage between the Board and the Council. He felt that budgetary restraint should have been a less important consideration in the debate. He expressed the hope that the Secretariat would present a full position paper in 1988 in order to make possible a lively discussion.

DRAFT DECISIONS PROPOSED BY THE PRESIDENT IN DOCUMENT E/1986/L.9, ON BEHALF OF THE BUREAU OF THE COUNCIL, ON THE BASIS OF INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS

29. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft decisions 1 to 11 that he proposed on

**From the 2nd meeting, para. 3.

behalf of the Bureau, on the basis of informal consultations, in document E/1986/L.9, namely: 1, "Waiver of rule 2 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council"; 2, "Venue of the meetings of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights"; 3, "Inclusion of Mauritania in the list of the least developed countries"; 4, "Inclusion of Kiribati and Tuvalu in the list of the least developed countries"; 5, "Improvement of secretariat servicing and substantive support services for the Committee on Natural Resources"; 6, "Scheduling of the session of the Trade and Development Board"; 7, "Inclusion of Portuguese among the official and/or working languages of the Economic Commission for Africa"; 8, "Work of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control"; 9, "Resolution adopted by the Conference of the World Intellectual Property Organization and the Assembly of the International Union for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works"; 10, "Reconvened special session of the Commission on Transnational Corporations"; 11, "Basic programme of work of the Economic and Social Council for 1986 and 1987". Draft decisions 1 to 10 were submitted under item 2. Draft decision 11 was submitted under item 3.

DRAFT DECISION 1

Draft decision 1 was adopted (decision 1986/101).

DRAFT DECISION 2

Draft decision 2 was adopted (decision 1986/102).

DRAFT DECISION 3

Draft decision 3 was adopted (decision 1986/103).

30. Mr. EL GHOUAYEL (Observer for Tunisia) expressed his delegation's satisfaction at the adoption of draft decision 3; he felt, however, that it was unfortunate that the action had not been endorsed earlier, in view of Mauritania's serious socio-economic situation. He expressed the hope that the problems noted by many delegations with regard to the lack of criteria for inclusion in the list of the least developed countries would be solved.

31. Mr. OULD CHEIKH EL GAOUTHE (Observer for Mauritania) thanked the sponsors of the draft decision and the members of the Council, in particular the delegations of Canada and Australia and the delegations of countries members of the Committee for Development Planning, for seeking ways and means of responding to Mauritania's plight.

DRAFT DECISION 4

32. Mrs. GIRARDIN (France) asked whether the item dealt with in the draft decision was included in the Council's agenda.

33. Mr. FAREED (Pakistan) said that the French representative was correct in saying that the item had not been included in the agenda. However, Australia had proposed that Tuvalu and Kiribati should be considered by the Committee for Development Planning. He also noted that the phrase "flexible application of the criteria" had been omitted from the draft decision. He reaffirmed Pakistan's support for the inclusion of Kiribati and Tuvalu in that list.

34. Mr. MULLER (Australia) said that the Committee for Development Planning had decided to

consider the matter even before his colleague had referred to it at a previous meeting. Perhaps there was therefore no need for a formal decision at the organizational session.

35. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that no action was required on draft decision 4.

It was so decided.

DRAFT DECISION 5

36. Mr. LEE (Canada) suggested that the text of draft decision 5 should be changed to read along the following lines:

"The Economic and Social Council welcomes the oral report made by the representative of the Secretary-General¹ in pursuance of its resolution 1985/55 of 25 July 1985 on the measures taken for improving the secretariat servicing and substantive support services for the Committee on Natural Resources; requests the Secretary-General, in addition to those measures, to ensure through the Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation and the Office of Secretariat Services for Economic and Social Matters full administrative and substantive input and co-ordination for the Committee in time for its tenth session, to be held in 1987; also requests the Secretary-General to report to the Council at its second regular session of 1986 on action taken in this regard.

¹ See E/1986/SR.2."

Draft decision 5, as amended, was adopted (decision 1986/104).

DRAFT DECISIONS 6, 7, 8, 9 AND 10

Draft decisions 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 were adopted (decisions 1986/105, 1986/106, 1986/107, 1986/108 and 1986/109).

DRAFT DECISION 11

37. Mr. SEVAN (Secretary of the Council) said that the text of draft decision 11, on the basic programme of work of the Council for 1986 and 1987, appeared in documents E/1986/1/Add.1 and E/1986/L.9 and Add.1. As was customary, section I was entitled "Basic programme of work of the Council for 1986" (see E/1986/L.9 and Add.1); section II was entitled "Questions for inclusion in the programme of work of the Council for 1987" (see E/1986/L.9 and Add.1 and E/1986/1/Add.1). As was also customary, the Secretariat would give final form to the text of the decision should it be adopted.

PARAGRAPH 1

Paragraph 1 was adopted.

PARAGRAPH 2

38. Mr. LEE (Canada) said that paragraph 2 should indicate that time would have to be provided for the Council itself to consider the report of the Sessional Working Group.

39. Mr. SEVAN (Secretary of the Council) said that the plenary Council would have time to consider the

report as soon as the latter was available. There was no need for a specific decision to that effect.

40. Mr. LEE (Canada) said that he agreed with the Secretary's observation but felt that for the sake of clarity it should be reflected in the paragraph.

41. Mr. SEVAN (Secretary of the Council) said that paragraph 2 could be amended to read that item 3 should also be considered in plenary meeting.

Paragraph 2, as amended, was adopted.

PARAGRAPH 3

42. Mr. ORLANDO (United States of America) recalled that his delegation had expressed the view during the informal consultations that agenda items 11 and 12 could be merged and should be given priority.

43. Mr. LAVROV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), referring to agenda item 13, recalled that the previous year the Council had decided that the report of the Trade and Development Board on its spring session would be submitted to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session and that the Board's report on its fall session would be submitted directly to the General Assembly. He therefore felt that the following report of the Trade and Development Board should be submitted to the Council at its second regular session.

44. Mr. SEVAN (Secretary of the Council) said that the Soviet representative's observation was correct but that a decision (draft decision 6) had already been taken on the scheduling of the sessions of the Trade and Development Board. He added that the report on the thirty-second session of the Board would be available on time.

45. Mr. LEE (Canada), supported by Mr. KUMLIN (Sweden) and Mr. DIECKMANN (Federal Republic of Germany), said that he had been struck by the amount of time and energy it had taken during the Council's second regular session of 1985 to deal with the important issues raised by the regional commissions and their financial implications. The organization of the Council's work and relevant substantive questions therefore required careful attention.

46. Mr. SHAABAN (Egypt) said that he shared the concerns expressed by the preceding speakers. The Economic Commission for Africa, for example, had adopted for the Council's consideration certain resolutions which had been triggered by the critical situation in Africa. Efforts had been made, with the approval of the delegations concerned, to minimize the financial implications of those resolutions.

PARAGRAPH 4

47. Mr. SHAABAN (Egypt) proposed that paragraph 4 (c), in order to reflect more faithfully General Assembly resolution 39/217, should be amended to read "To review the reports of the World Food Council, the Committee on the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy, and the Council of the United Nations University, but not to consider draft proposals thereon, except specific recommendations, . . .".

48. Mr. JØNCK (Observer for Denmark) said that the report of the Joint Inspection Unit should also be mentioned in due course.

49. Mr. LEE (Canada) agreed with the representative of Egypt and said that the paragraph would

appear to be arbitrary if it did not reflect General Assembly resolution 39/217.

50. Mr. SEVAN (Secretary of the Council) said that General Assembly resolution 39/217 was, in fact, mentioned in paragraph 4 (b) and that a general chapeau was inappropriate. There was no need to amend paragraph 4 (c) because it was understood that there would be a discussion but no new resolutions. A new paragraph 5 could be added mentioning all the relevant resolutions, but there was no real need for it.

51. Mr. HUHTANIEMI (Finland) recalled, in connection with paragraph 4 (a), that his delegation had proposed that agenda item 19 should be treated as a priority item at the Council's second regular session. If the Council agreed to that, the matter of allocation could be rediscussed. For the time being, therefore, he accepted the subparagraph as it stood.

52. Mr. FIELD (United Kingdom) said that the distribution of agenda items referred to in paragraph 4 (a) should be considered in the light of the workload of the two committees concerned.

PARAGRAPH 5

53. Mr. MALIK (India) proposed that paragraph 5 should be amended to read "particularly on questions of co-ordination in the United Nations system".

54. Mr. FAREED (Pakistan) said that the paragraph should be further amended to read "to draw attention in his reports to be submitted to the General Assembly".

Paragraph 5, as amended, was adopted.

PARAGRAPH 6

55. Mr. JØNCK (Observer for Denmark) said that consideration should be given to the question of coherence with respect to the biennialization of the work of the Council and the meetings of subsidiary bodies such as UNEP.

56. Mr. SEVAN (Secretary of the Council) said that the fact that a report was considered by the General Assembly on a biennial basis did not mean that it did not go through the Council.

57. Mr. JØNCK (Observer for Denmark), supported by Mrs. GIRARDIN (France), said that in the coming year the Council would not have the UNEP report before it and would therefore not consider the question of environment. Coherence must therefore be taken into account.

58. Mr. LEE (Canada) said that biennialization was a complicated process involving anomalies such as those pointed to by the observer for Denmark and the representative of France, and that those anomalies must be corrected as they emerged. His delegation attached great importance to the decision in paragraph 6 and hoped that subsidiary bodies would comply with it and that the Secretariat would draw the attention of delegations to occasions when proposals would have an impact on biennialization.

59. Mr. DIECKMANN (Federal Republic of Germany) said he agreed with previous speakers that the weak points of biennialization should be discussed and that the Secretariat should pinpoint the problems involved.

60. Mr. SEVAN (Secretary of the Council) said that the Secretariat could make suggestions regarding

anomalies and provide informal papers. The Council might want to hold informal discussions and have a review process. In fact, it had problems with its own biennialization.

61. Mr. MALIK (India) said that he agreed with the proposal made by the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany. It was time to take a good look at the whole question of co-ordination and biennialization. He also thought that paragraph 6 should be amended by substituting the word "request" for "direct".

Paragraph 6, as amended, was adopted.

PARAGRAPH 7

62. Mr. DIECKMANN (Federal Republic of Germany) suggested that the word "direct" should be replaced by the word "request", as in the case of paragraph 6.

63. Mr. FAREED (Pakistan) said that he agreed with the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany but wondered why the paragraph was necessary at all since the subsidiary bodies automatically acted on resolutions when requested to do so by the Council.

64. Mr. SEVAN (Secretary of the Council) said that past practice had been to list all the relevant resolutions which required a subsidiary body to take action and that paragraph 7 was, in effect, a compromise. He agreed that it was redundant because the relevant resolutions were mentioned in due course, in annotations to provisional agendas of the bodies concerned.

65. Mr. FAREED (Pakistan) suggested that the existing wording of paragraph 7 should be retained, including the word "direct", lest any subsidiary body might say that it was not directed by the Council to undertake certain actions.

66. Mr. LEE (Canada) said that that wording should be retained because it respected the division of powers and functions among the various United Nations organizations and institutions.

67. Mr. MALIK (India) was in favour of replacing the words "decides to direct all" by "requests".

68. Mr. FAREED (Pakistan) observed that the word "direct" had been used in order to strengthen the request.

69. Mr. MALIK (India) said that, if no substantial financial saving would result from making the change, the wording might be retained, with the clear understanding, however, that the Council was directing no one but itself.

70. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt paragraph 7 as it stood.

It was so decided.

PARAGRAPH 8

71. Mr. SEVAN (Secretary of the Council) read out the following changes in the list of questions referred to in document E/1986/1/Add.1: the "Report of the Secretary-General on a system-wide medium-term plan for women and development" should be transferred from the section entitled "Advancement of women" to the section entitled "International co-operation and co-ordination within the United Nations system"; and the "Report of the Secretary-General on patterns of consumption" should be

deleted from the section entitled "International co-operation and co-ordination within the United Nations system".

DRAFT DECISIONS PROPOSED BY THE PRESIDENT IN DOCUMENT E/1986/L.9/ADD.1, ON BEHALF OF THE BUREAU OF THE COUNCIL, ON THE BASIS OF INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS

72. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on draft decisions 1 and 2 that he proposed on behalf of the Bureau, on the basis of informal consultations, in document E/1986/L.9/Add.1, namely: 1, "System-wide medium-term plan for women and development"; 2, "Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies: draft annex relating to the United Nations Industrial Development Organization". The document also contained the text of two new subparagraphs and a paragraph to be added to draft decision 11, if the Council was in agreement. Draft decisions 1 and 2 were submitted under item 2.

DRAFT DECISION 1

Draft decision 1 was adopted (decision 1986/111).

73. Mr. LEE (Canada) said that his delegation attached great importance to the system-wide medium-term plan for women and development, which would become a principal means of implementing the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women throughout the United Nations system. Given the comprehensive and integrated approach of the Nairobi Strategies and the new mandate in the economic and social sectors, follow-up throughout the system, particularly in the Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation, would be vital to ensure that the mandate was effectively translated into action.

74. He welcomed the explanations provided by the Secretariat during the course of the informal consultations to the effect that the proposed framework for the plan to be presented to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-first session and to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination at its twenty-sixth session would include, *inter alia*, a timetable for the plan. The question of timing was important in the preparation of individual medium-term plans of the United Nations for 1990-1995 and in the consideration of the United Nations programme budget for the following biennium. Canada firmly believed that the system-wide medium-term plan should also identify programmes and institutions where action must still be taken, not just those in which activities were currently under way. He trusted, from the explanations of the Secretariat, that a comprehensive, future-oriented approach would be taken.

75. Lastly, he stressed the importance which his delegation attached to strengthening the linkages between the system-wide medium-term plan and the biennial review of operational activities.

DRAFT DECISION 2

Draft decision 2 was adopted (decision 1986/112).

DRAFT DECISION 11 (CONTINUED)

76. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the proposed additions to paragraph 4 of draft decision 11 which were contained in document E/1986/L.9/Add.1.

PARAGRAPH 4 (B)

Paragraph 4 (b) was adopted.

PARAGRAPH 4 (C)

77. Mr. LAVROV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that paragraph 4 (c), which had been proposed by the Soviet Union, had been revised after informal consultations to read:

"(c) To invite the executive secretaries of the regional commissions to recommend also, in the future, any other items of common interest to all regions".

78. Mr. MALIK (India) suggested adding the phrase "in keeping with the provisions of Council resolution 1982/50".

79. Mr. FAREED (Pakistan) suggested adding the phrase "and Council decision 1982/174".

80. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the new paragraph proposed by the Soviet Union, as amended by the representatives of Pakistan and India, would replace the current paragraph 4 (c).

It was so decided.

PARAGRAPH 9

81. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the proposed paragraph 9 of section II of draft decision 11. The text of the new paragraph was contained in document E/1986/L.9/Add.1.

Paragraph 9 was adopted.

82. The PRESIDENT said that agreement had been reached during informal consultations on two subparagraphs to be added after paragraph 2 of section I of draft decision 11. They would read:

"The Economic and Social Council

"(a) Decides to consider, at its first regular session of 1986, the possibility of identifying issues on its agenda for in-depth consideration at its first regular session of 1987;

"(b) Decides to defer, to its first regular session of 1986, the selection of topic(s) for priority consideration at its second regular session of 1986".

83. Mr. RAHMAN (Bangladesh) suggested replacing the word "issues" in subparagraph (a) by the word "issue(s)".

84. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to make that change.

It was so decided.

Subparagraph (a), as amended, was adopted.

85. Mr. FERRER (United States of America), referring to subparagraph (b), said that during the informal consultations concerning the priority issue for the second regular session his delegation had proposed the topic "Recent changes in world energy prices and markets: opportunities and potential problems". He expressed the hope that, in the period

preceding the first regular session, delegations would look at that proposal seriously. He also expressed reluctance to acquiesce in the Council's decision to postpone the selection of the priority topic, because such a postponement would shorten the time available to prepare the topic, thereby detracting from the quality of the debate.

86. Mr. LAZAREVIĆ (Yugoslavia) said that the Group of 77 would have to wait for the results of a number of meetings before it was able to decide on the priority issues which it wished to be considered at the second regular session of the Council. Moreover, it would like the President of the Council to conduct consultations prior to the first regular session in order to assist delegations to reach agreement on those issues. The Council should take up the topic of priority issues at the beginning of its first regular session in order to provide the Secretariat with sufficient time to prepare the document or documents which would be required for the second regular session, and to allow delegations ample time to consider the topic.

87. Mr. STEBELSKI (Poland) suggested that a list of the priority issues which had been proposed for the second regular session should be included in the summary record of the meeting or in the report of the Council.

88. Mr. SEVAN (Secretary of the Council) read out the proposals made by various delegations with regard to the topics for priority consideration by the Council at its second regular session of 1986. The representative of the United States of America had proposed the topics "Review of the various co-operative efforts on Africa" and "Recent changes in world energy prices and markets: opportunities and potential problems". The representative of Japan had proposed the topic "Human resources development" and the representative of Poland had proposed "Debt and development". The representative of Finland had proposed a single topic designed to combine two topics proposed by other delegations, namely, "Comprehensive review of operational activities for development and human resources development". Finally, the representative of the United Kingdom had proposed the topic "Reassessing the role of technical co-operation in strengthening public management capacities".

89. Mr. LAZAREVIĆ (Yugoslavia) said that the Council should not reflect in its report the proposals which had been made during the informal consultations but should take a decision stating that a number of proposals had been made by various delegations and that the Council had decided to postpone consideration of the matter until the beginning of its first regular session of 1986.

90. Mr. BAHADIAN (Brazil) said that the Council should avoid making rigid proposals which would restrict consultations at its next session. Since some delegations, including Brazil, had not yet made proposals for priority issues because they had considered that that matter would be taken up at the first regular session, his delegation was opposed to the inclusion of an exhaustive list of such proposals in the Council's report.

91. Mr. FERRER (United States of America) said that his delegation had not requested that a list of proposed priority issues should be attached to the Council's report. It simply wanted the proposal it had

made earlier in the meeting to be reflected in the summary record.

92. Mr. RAHMAN (Bangladesh) said that it was unfortunate that the proposals, which had been made informally in order to facilitate consultations, would appear in the summary record. His delegation understood that the list was not an exhaustive one or even an indicative one, and that delegations, either individually or collectively, would have the right to propose any other priority issue which they might deem appropriate.

93. Mr. FAREED (Pakistan) said that, in his delegation's view, the list should not be included in the report.

94. Mr. LEE (Canada), referring to subparagraph (b), said it was a pity that the Council had been unable to select a topic at its organizational session. By deferring decisions of that kind, the Council impeded its ability to organize its work properly.

95. Mr. STEBELSKI (Poland) said that a non-exhaustive list of the priority issues which had been proposed during informal consultations could be helpful in preparing for the first regular session of 1986 of the Council. However, if there was no agreement to have such a list, he did not wish to prolong discussion on the subject.

96. Miss FRANKINET (Belgium) said that the list read out by the Secretary would be reflected in the summary record of the meeting, as would comments by delegations stating that the list was not intended to be exhaustive. That should be sufficient to end the discussion on the subject.

Subparagraph (b) was adopted.

97. Mr. LAVROV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that, according to article 6 of the Agreement between the United Nations and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (General Assembly resolution 40/180, annex), UNIDO would submit to the United Nations an annual report on its activities. The report of UNIDO should either be considered by the Council during its second regular session of 1986, or the Council should recommend to the General Assembly that the latter should include the question of industrial co-operation in the programme of work of the Second Committee at the forty-first session.

98. Mr. SEVAN (Secretary of the Council) said that the Council, in resolution 2098 (LXIII), had decided to discontinue the submission of analytical summaries of the reports of the specialized agencies, and had more or less decided to resort to cross-organizational programme analyses as a substitute for the consideration of such summaries and reports. If there was a decision requiring the consideration of the report of UNIDO, the Council would be the appropriate body. However, the Council might also decide to have a general item on industrial co-operation for development which was not necessarily restricted to the report of UNIDO. Once the item had been taken up by the Council, it could be considered again by the Second Committee of the General Assembly, either in the context of item 12 or as a separate item.

99. Mr. LAVROV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) suggested that the Council should take into consideration the fact that it had already considered the question of industrial development and that the Second Committee at the fortieth session of the General Assembly, in accordance with its biennial programme of work, had not examined that question.

It would therefore be logical if the Council were to recommend that an item on industrial co-operation should be included in the programme of work of the Second Committee, it being understood that the Second Committee would consider the report of UNIDO under that item.

100. Mr. SEVAN (Secretary of the Council) said that it was important to determine what such an item would involve, including the nature of the documentation. The Council should examine the matter in the context of the programme of work of the Second Committee as well as its own programme of work and make recommendations thereon to the General Assembly, in order to make the work of the two bodies more complementary.

101. The PRESIDENT said that the Council would consider the matter at its second regular session of 1986.

102. Mr. MALIK (India) requested that the Council should be informed, during its second regular session of 1986, about the procedure for dealing with reports of other specialized agencies. The report of UNIDO should not be considered in the same way as all other reports submitted by specialized agencies.

103. Mr. DIECKMANN (Federal Republic of Germany) said that it would be wiser to defer consideration of that matter to the first regular session of the Council in 1986, at which time the Council could take up the problem of how to deal with reports of other specialized agencies.

104. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to approve the following draft text, to be included in draft decision 11:

"The Economic and Social Council decides that the report of the Secretary-General on the critical economic situation in Africa, requested in its resolution 1985/80 of 26 July 1985, be submitted for consideration to the General Assembly at its special session on the critical economic situation in Africa, which is to be held from 27 to 31 May 1986."

It was so decided.

105. The PRESIDENT suggested that, as had been agreed at the informal meeting held that morning, the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Some reflections on reform of the United Nations" (A/40/988) should be considered at the second regular session of 1986 of the Council under the item entitled "International co-operation and co-ordination within the United Nations system". A notation to that effect would be duly reflected in the provisional agenda for that session.

It was so decided.

106. The PRESIDENT said that the Council had thus concluded its consideration of draft decision 11. He suggested that draft decision 11 should be approved with all the amendments that had been made to it, on the understanding that the Secretariat would put it into its final form.

It was so decided (decision 1986/110).

OTHER DRAFT DECISIONS SUBMITTED UNDER ITEM 2

107. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to adopt a draft decision, proposed by the President on behalf of the Bureau of the Council and on the basis of informal consultations, entitled "Draft convention

against the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs", which he read out:

"The Economic and Social Council, recalling its decision 1985/104 of 8 February 1985 and in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 40/120 of 13 December 1985,

"(a) Requests the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its ninth special session, after consideration of the report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.7/1986/2 and Add.1), to decide on the elements that could be included in the draft convention, and requests the Secretary-General to prepare a draft on the basis of those elements and to submit a progress report, including completed elements of the draft, to the Commission for consideration at its thirty-second session;

"(b) Further requests the Commission to report to the Council at its first regular session of 1986 on the results achieved in this respect during its ninth special session."

The draft decision was adopted (decision 1986/113).

108. Mrs. BOCHECIAMPE de CROVATI (Venezuela) introduced, as a result of informal consultations, a draft decision regarding the preparatory body for the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, which she read out:

"The Economic and Social Council, in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 40/122 of 13 December 1985, by which the Assembly decided to convene in 1987 an International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking,

"(a) Decides to invite the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to act as the preparatory body for the Conference and invites the widest possible participation of all States;

"(b) Decides further that in the preparatory body all States should participate in the decision-making process;

"(c) Recommends that every effort should be made to arrive at decisions on matters of substance by general agreement;

"(d) Decides to extend by one week the ninth special session of the Commission, which is to be held at Vienna in February 1986, so as to enable the Commission to consider the agenda and the organizational arrangements for the Conference;

"(e) Requests the Commission to submit its report on these matters to the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1986."

109. She had consulted the Legal Adviser, who had informed her that he understood the words "the decision-making process" to refer to the entire process, including the taking of decisions.

110. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft decision read out by the representative of Venezuela.

The draft decision was adopted (decision 1986/114).

111. Mr. LEE (Canada) said that his delegation had participated in the lengthy and delicate informal consultations held on the draft decision, the outcome of which was familiar to all who had been so involved.

112. Mr. FERRER (United States of America) said that the informal consultations on the draft decision

just adopted had been constructive in that they had led to an agreement with regard to the text, even though much of the discussion had centred on procedural matters. If the objectives of the International Conference were to be achieved, delegations must approach the substantive issues involved in as flexible a manner as possible and strive to maintain a positive environment for discussion.

113. The PRESIDENT asked the Council to adopt a draft decision, proposed by the President on behalf of the Bureau of the Council, as a result of informal consultations, entitled "International Year of Peace", which he read out:

"The Economic and Social Council, in response to General Assembly resolution 40/10 of 11 November 1985, decides to declare its support for the solemn Proclamation of the International Year of Peace adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 40/3 of 24 October 1985; reaffirms its commitment to collaborate, within the areas of its competence, to achieve positive results in international co-operation for the promotion of peace during the Year and beyond, since the International Year of Peace is not only a celebration or commemoration but also an opportunity to reflect and to act creatively and systematically in order to achieve the purposes of the Charter of the United Nations; and decides to give appropriate consideration thereto throughout its deliberations in 1986."

The draft decision was adopted (decision 1986/115).

114. Mrs. CASTRO de BARISH (Costa Rica) thanked the Council for adopting the draft decision on the International Year of Peace. She was sure that such a step would lead to the better observance of the Year and would facilitate the achievement of its objectives.

AGENDA ITEM 1

Election of the Bureau (*concluded*)

ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE VICE-PRESIDENTS

115. The PRESIDENT informed the Council that, after consultations with members of the Bureau, it had been agreed that the Vice-Presidents of the Council would have the following responsibilities during 1986:

Mr. Eugeniusz NOWORYTA, of Poland, would chair the First (Economic) Committee;

Mr. David SAMUDIO, of Panama, would chair the Second (Social) Committee;

Mr. Heinrich-Dietrich DIECKMANN, of the Federal Republic of Germany, would chair the Third (Programme and Co-ordination) Committee; and

Mr. P.M.S. MALIK, of India, would perform other functions, as required by the Council, and would co-ordinate informal consultations.

AGENDA ITEM 5

Provisional agenda for the first regular session of 1986 and other organizational matters (E/1986/1)

116. The PRESIDENT said that the Council, by adopting section I, paragraph 1, of draft decision 11,

in the context of item 3, had adopted the list of items to be considered at the first regular session of 1986 and, as a result, the provisional agenda for that session.

Closure of the session

117. The PRESIDENT said that the agenda which the Council had just adopted under item 3 for the two regular sessions of 1986 contained many items of

vital importance to mankind. Much dedication and co-operation would be required if the Council was to find appropriate solutions to such challenging problems, and he was encouraged by the spirit of co-operation and good will demonstrated during the current session.

118. He then declared the organizational session for 1986 closed.

The meeting rose at 6.15 p.m.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 1986

Summary records of the 5th to 20th plenary meetings, held at Headquarters, New York, from 29 April to 23 May 1986

5th meeting

Tuesday, 29 April 1986, at 10.45 a.m.

President: Mr. Manuel DOS SANTOS (Mozambique)

E/1986/SR.5

Opening of the session

1. The PRESIDENT declared open the first regular session of 1986 of the Economic and Social Council.

AGENDA ITEM 1

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (E/1986/30, E/1986/57, E/1986/68, E/1986/70; E/1986/L.11, E/1986/L.12)

2. The PRESIDENT said that he had received a letter (E/1986/68) from the Chairman of the Commission on Transnational Corporations at its twelfth session informing the Council that the Commission had accepted the principle of biennialization, as contained in General Assembly decision 38/429, Assembly resolution 39/217 and Council decision 1984/104; the Commission had decided to refer the matter, through the Council at its current session, to the General Assembly at its resumed fortieth session. He suggested that the letter should be considered under item 1.
3. He also drew the Council's attention to a letter (E/1986/70) addressed to him by the Permanent Representative of Yugoslavia, on behalf of the Group of 77, requesting that the draft resolution on the activities of transnational corporations in South Africa and Namibia should be considered at the current session. It would serve as an input to the World Conference on Sanctions against Racist South Africa, to be held in June 1986. He suggested that the draft resolution should be considered at the current session under item 1.
4. If he heard no objections, he would take it that the Council adopted the provisional agenda for the first regular session of 1986 (E/1986/30), with the two additional questions included under item 1.
The agenda was adopted.
5. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to turn its attention to the note by the Bureau concerning

the organization of the work of the session (E/1986/L.12). Agenda item 14, "Elections and nominations", was scheduled to be taken up on 22 May. However, the Group of Western European and other States had requested that the election to its vacant seat should be held earlier, in order for the Group to be fully represented at the session of the Commission on Human Settlements to be convened on 5 May. He suggested that the request should be granted and that the election should take place at the Council's 6th meeting.

It was so decided.

6. The PRESIDENT said that the note by the Bureau contained no recommendation as to time-limits for statements made in exercise of the right of reply nor as to the number of times the right could be exercised. Pending a decision on that issue, previous practice would be followed: the number of interventions in the exercise of the right of reply for any delegation at a given meeting should be limited to two per item; the first intervention should be limited to five minutes and the second to three minutes. He suggested that the Bureau should continue its informal consultations on the matter and make its recommendations thereon at a later meeting.
7. Mr. SEVAN (Secretary of the Council) recalled that there had been a proposal to reduce the length of the first regular session by one week. The agenda had been prepared on the assumption that the session would, as in previous years, last four weeks. But there were a number of ways in which savings could be made, in particular by reducing the number of meetings. He announced the following revisions to the proposed schedule of work, annexed to document E/1986/L.12. There would be no meetings on 9, 14 or 20 May, and the morning meeting scheduled for 12 May had been cancelled. Of a possible total of 114 meetings during the session, only 48 were scheduled. It would be possible to make further savings only if some of the Council's practices were changed, for example, that of not holding meetings of the Second (Social) Committee during the first week of the

session when items 2, 4 and 5 were being discussed in plenary meeting. In addition, documentation would have to be reduced and submitted on time.

8. Lastly, he informed delegations that, because of the need for economy, the Secretariat would no longer work overtime. Afternoon meetings must therefore end not later than 6 p.m.

9. Mr. LEE (Canada) asked whether the reduction in the number of meetings referred to by the Secretary was the Secretariat's response to the suggestion contained in paragraph 23 (b) of document A/40/1102 regarding the curtailment of the Council's sessions by one week.

10. Mr. RAHIM (Bangladesh) proposed that the Council should start its morning meetings at 10 a.m. rather than at 10.30 a.m. to make maximum use of the conference services available.

11. Mr. MINTSA ZUE ONDO (Gabon) supported that proposal. A good example had just been set by the UNICEF Executive Board in that respect.

12. Mr. SEVAN (Secretary of the Council) said that the total of 36 meetings saved amounted in effect to the equivalent of six working days. From the point of view of the Secretariat, he saw no problem with regard to the proposal to start meetings at 10 a.m. It would, however, require a commitment on the part of delegations to put their names on the list of speakers early and to abide by arrangements made.

13. The PRESIDENT said that if he heard no objections he would take it that the Council agreed to start its morning meetings at 10 a.m.

It was so decided.

14. The PRESIDENT said that if he heard no objections he would take it that the Council adopted the schedule of work contained in document E/1986/L.12, as orally revised.

It was so decided.

15. Mr. SAFRONCHUK (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation wished to draw attention to the observance in 1986 of the International Year of Peace which, although not on the agenda, was directly connected with the Council's work. The Council had already decided to give appropriate consideration during its deliberations in 1986 to international co-operation for the promotion of peace during the Year.

16. Closer co-operation by States in the social sphere, favourable conditions for social development and universal respect for human rights, including the supreme human right—the right to life—could be ensured only in conditions of peace. Speaking out in favour of human rights while preparing for nuclear war was not only absurd but immoral. Nuclear war would make the concepts of social development and human rights meaningless if there were no human beings left to enjoy those rights. The disastrous arms race set in motion by the most aggressive circles of imperialism could not be passed over in silence. Its continuation was a formidable obstacle to social and economic development everywhere. There was a direct cause-and-effect relationship between the trillion-dollar debt of the developing countries and the more-than-trillion-dollar increase in military expenditure by the leading Western Powers during the past decade. The arms race was consuming enormous material and human resources that could be used for social and economic development. It was undermining human rights.

17. The Soviet position with regard to the International Year of Peace was contained in the recent message from the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, Mr. Gorbachev, addressed to the Secretary-General (A/41/238, annex). It was fully consistent with the foreign-policy principles and goals put forward by the Twenty-seventh Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. The proposal made by the Congress concerning the establishment of an all-embracing international security system and the programme for the elimination of nuclear weapons by the year 2000, put forward by Mr. Gorbachev, were in harmony with the goals of the International Year of Peace. The new Soviet proposals for the prohibition of chemical weapons, which would open the way to the early conclusion of an effective and verifiable international convention on their prohibition and destruction, were also consistent with the purposes of the Year.

18. The Soviet people hoped that the Year would provide the framework for practical steps to be taken in all countries towards the genuine deliverance of present and succeeding generations from the threat of a nuclear holocaust. The Soviet Union would continue to participate actively in efforts to implement the objectives of the Year. It was the noble duty of the Council to take a decision in connection with the observance of the Year that would respond to the General Assembly's appeal and help mobilize the efforts of all States and peoples to rid humanity of the arms race and the spectre of nuclear war, and to ensure the right to life of each human being.

AGENDA ITEM 2

Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (E/1986/14 and Add.1, E/1986/15, E/1986/53-A/41/181)

19. Mr. JONAH (Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Co-ordination of Activities relating to the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination) said that the Economic and Social Council had demonstrated its firm commitment to the promotion of racial equality and harmony when it had established the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities as a special subsidiary body of the Commission on Human Rights. The work of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD), established under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,¹ played a particularly valuable role in promoting international co-operation and racial harmony. However, despite efforts by the United Nations to eliminate racism and racial discrimination, manifestations of those phenomena continued to exist. The Second World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, held in 1983, had adopted a wide-ranging programme of action to deal with that situation. Since the adoption, on 22 November 1983, of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination,² the General Assembly had consistently achieved consensus on all decisions relating to it. In

¹ General Assembly resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

² General Assembly resolution 38/14, annex.

endorsing the Programme, the Assembly had given the Council the task of co-ordinating the implementation of Programme activities.

20. In its resolution 40/22, the General Assembly had, *inter alia*, invited the Secretary-General to disseminate the report of the Seminar on Community Relations Commissions and Their Functions, held at Geneva from 9 to 20 September 1985; that report was currently available under the symbol ST/HR/SER.A/17. In addition, work within the Secretariat on the projects referred to in paragraph 9 of the resolution was progressing. The international seminar mentioned in paragraph 15 of the resolution was being organized in co-operation with the Government of Cameroon, and was currently being held in that country.

21. The documentation requested in paragraphs 10 and 11 of General Assembly resolution 39/16 and paragraph 17 of General Assembly resolution 40/22 had been transmitted to the Council for consideration during its current session. In resolution 40/22, an appeal was also made to all Governments, organizations and individuals in a position to do so to contribute generously to the Trust Fund for the Programme for the Decade so as to enable the Secretary-General to implement the various programme elements outlined in his report on the plan of activities for 1985–1989.³ In that connection, it should be noted that the Secretary-General had issued a general press release and addressed a note to all Member States appealing for contributions to the Trust Fund; he wished to reiterate that appeal to the members of the Council.

22. Mr. HAMER (Observer for the Netherlands), speaking on behalf of the 12 countries members of the European Community, said that those countries had consistently rejected all forms of racial discrimination, which they considered to constitute an intolerable violation of the Charter of the United Nations. Despite efforts undertaken by the international community, the mental attitudes and the ignorance which led to racial intolerance persisted. However, the fact that the consensus with which the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination had been proclaimed, by General Assembly resolution 38/14, had since been consolidated was to be welcomed. The members of the European Community had actively participated in many activities related to the Decade, and had taken note with interest of the reports of the Secretary-General (E/1986/14 and Add.1 and E/1986/15).

23. The States parties to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination had recently learned that the functioning of CERD was jeopardized by the failure of a majority of States to honour their financial obligations for 1984 and earlier years. The European Community called upon those States parties that were in arrears to take urgent action so that the Committee might continue its work.

24. While no society could claim to be totally free of racial discrimination, the institutionalization of inequality, discrimination and injustice in South Africa, was another matter altogether. The evil of *apartheid* was to be condemned in the strongest terms. While recent measures announced by President Botha, including the decision to abolish the pass laws, were welcome, they in no way represented the

abolition of the *apartheid* system. That system must be dismantled quickly.

25. The States members of the European Community had committed themselves to action regarding South Africa, which they hoped would become a fully democratic, peaceful and prosperous country. In February 1986, they had called on the South African Government to declare categorically that *apartheid* would be dismantled completely, to end the state of emergency, and to initiate a dialogue with the genuine representatives of the majority population. They had appealed to the Government to release unconditionally all political detainees, including Nelson Mandela, in order to facilitate the negotiation process, and to lift the ban on the African National Congress of South Africa, the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania and other political parties, so as to create an atmosphere conducive to political dialogue. They had also welcomed the establishment of a group of eminent persons by the recent Commonwealth summit conference with a view to promoting dialogue in South Africa, and had urged the South African Government to co-operate with that group.

26. In September 1985, the States members of the European Community had agreed to harmonize policies relating to the embargo on exports of weapons, oil and sensitive equipment to South Africa, the withdrawal of military co-operation and assistance, and the prohibition of nuclear collaboration. They had also announced a number of "positive measures" to provide active support to a broad range of anti-*apartheid* organizations and programmes. The Code of Conduct for companies based in countries of the Community and operating in South Africa had been adopted and reinforced. The Community was prepared to review all those policies if no significant progress was achieved towards the abolition of *apartheid* within a reasonable period. The ending of the state of emergency in March 1986 had been welcomed; however, the continuing violence and the rising death-toll in South Africa remained a matter of serious concern. The members of the Community would continue to monitor developments in South Africa closely and maintain contacts with organizations inside and outside South Africa that were actively involved in promoting peaceful change in that country.

27. Mr. GORAJEWSKI (Poland) said that racial discrimination and *apartheid* constituted an affront to human dignity, yet continued to exist in both open and covert forms. It was therefore incumbent upon the international community to put a stop to that situation. Poland had ratified the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination² and was currently seeking to implement the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.¹ In solidarity with all those who were struggling against the *apartheid* régime, Poland had broken off relations with South Africa.

28. While mandatory sanctions should be imposed against South Africa under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, efforts to impose such sanctions had thus far been nullified by the major Western Powers. He drew attention in that connection to the updated list of banks, transnational corporations and other organizations assisting the racist régime of South Africa, compiled by the Special Rapporteur of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities.

³E/1984/33-A/39/167 and Add.1 and 2.

ties. The list was quite impressive, but of equal interest was the fact that no major Western country had replied to the Sub-Commission's request for pertinent information.

29. Pretoria had been shielded from sanctions by the exercise of vetoes in the Security Council. His delegation looked forward to the holding of the

World Conference on Sanctions against Racist South Africa, which would constitute a positive step towards the elimination of racial discrimination and *apartheid*.

The meeting rose at noon.

6th meeting

Wednesday, 30 April 1986, at 3.20 p.m.

President: Mr. Manuel DOS SANTOS (Mozambique)

E/1986/SR.6

Tribute to the memory of Raúl Prebisch

1. The PRESIDENT, speaking on behalf of the Council and on his own behalf, paid tribute to Raúl Prebisch, of Argentina, whose distinguished career had been closely linked to the United Nations, first as Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and later as the first Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and who had also been the driving force behind, and inspiration of, progress in relations between industrialized and developing countries and in international co-operation for development.

On the proposal of the President, the members of the Council observed a minute of silence in tribute to the memory of Raúl Prebisch.

2. Mr. MATELJAK (Yugoslavia), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77, and Mr. RIPERT (Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation) joined in the tribute to the memory of Raúl Prebisch.

3. Mr. DE LA TORRE (Argentina) thanked the members of the Council for their tribute and condolences.

AGENDA ITEM 14

Elections and nominations

COMMISSION ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (E/1986/L.3/REV.1)

4. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect one member from the Group of Western European and other States to the Commission on Human Settlements for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1987. The election had been postponed at previous sessions. Denmark had been nominated to fill the vacancy.

5. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to elect Denmark to the Commission on Human Settlements.

*It was so decided.**

*See decision 1986/150.

AGENDA ITEM 1

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (*continued*)

ORGANIZATION OF WORK (E/1986/L.12, E/1986/L.13)

6. Mr. LEE (Canada) asked whether any changes would be made in the work of the Second (Social) Committee. His delegation believed that it would be possible to have an organizational meeting.

7. Mr. SEVAN (Secretary of the Council) said that, since there was a very heavy programme of work, the only possible change would be to increase the number of meetings.

8. Mr. SAMUDIO (Panama), speaking as Chairman of the Second (Social) Committee, said that since the Council had decided not to shorten its session it had been decided that the Committee's provisional agenda would not be changed. The first meeting would be held on Monday, 5 May, at 10 a.m.

LETTER DATED 22 APRIL 1986 FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION ON TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS AT ITS TWELFTH SESSION ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (E/1986/68)

9. The PRESIDENT said that the Council should consider the matter quickly and report back to the General Assembly at the current resumed fortieth session.

10. Mr. MOHAMED (Somalia) said that consultations were being held on document E/1986/68 and asked that no decision be taken at that time.

11. Mr. ORLANDO (United States of America) asked the representative of Somalia whether the consultations were within the Group of 77 or of a general nature. If they were general, his delegation would like to participate.

12. Mr. MOHAMED (Somalia) said that the Group of African States was considering the issue and he therefore asked that consideration of the matter be postponed until the following day.

13. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to postpone consideration of the item until the following day.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 2

Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (continued) (E/1986/14 and Add.1, E/1986/15, E/1986/53-A/41/181)

14. Mr. MORA-GODOY (Observer for Cuba) said that the mention of item 2 brought to mind how far the United Nations had travelled in the sphere of action to combat racism and racial discrimination. Nevertheless, two ills continued to plague mankind, their most extreme and inhuman manifestations being the *apartheid* régime imposed in South Africa and the racist and expansionist policy of the Zionists of Israel.
15. Although the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination was well under way, those practices still persisted. All countries must condemn them and firmly and genuinely support implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade; Cuba supported it wholeheartedly. Any delay or omission in its implementation, any impediment or minimizing of the Programme would result in more lives being sacrificed and further humiliation for the peoples who were victims of those ignominious policies.
16. He thanked the States which had already joined in adopting concrete measures against the South African régime and in condemning the *apartheid* system fully and directly and urged them to adopt further measures of that kind.
17. *Apartheid* would already have been dismantled if those who supported it would only open their eyes. Cuba resolutely condemned those who continued to support the racist Pretoria Government and to encourage it by co-operating with it in the industrial, military and nuclear field. More specifically, the main moral, financial and material support for *apartheid* and the policy of aggression against the peoples of southern Africa came from the Government of the United States of America which, by adopting an attitude of indifference to and disregard for the international community and the principles accepted by it, had prevented any strong condemnation of *apartheid* in United Nations bodies and had encouraged the racist Government to continue implementing its policy of aggression against the countries of southern Africa. In addition, it was trying to turn Namibia into an area that would lend itself to neo-colonial exploitation by South Africa and the United States at the cost of its own independence.
18. The United States Government was supporting *apartheid* not only because of its hegemonic and imperialist interests in the region but also because of its own philosophy; racism and racial discrimination were an inseparable part of the "United States democracy", which sought to put aside the claims of the many minorities living in the United States, including those of the black minority, which was discriminated against on the grounds of race, and of the indigenous population, which had been stripped of its land and its right to survive.
19. In southern Africa, *apartheid* was in the grip of an irreversible crisis reflected in the progress being made by the African National Congress of South Africa (ANC) and in the growing rebelliousness of the masses; the historical outcome of that many-sided battle would undoubtedly be the reaffirmation of

independence and revolution in Angola, the independence of Namibia and the disappearance of the *apartheid* system.

20. The people and Government of Cuba reiterated their strong condemnation of racism, of all forms of racial discrimination, of *apartheid* and Zionism and of all reactionary Governments and forces which prevented the elimination of those evils and the exercise of the rights of the peoples of South Africa, Namibia and Palestine. Cuba also reiterated its determined support for the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), the ANC, the Palestine Liberation Organization and the other revolutionary forces which continued to struggle to eliminate oppression, racism and racial discrimination.

21. Mr. RICHTER (German Democratic Republic) extended condolences to the representative of Argentina on the death of Raúl Prebisch, an important economist and politician who had played a leading role in the spheres of co-operation, disarmament and development.

22. Concerning agenda item 2, the struggle against all manifestations of racism and racial discrimination remained a task of the highest priority, for millions of people were still subjected to the ideology and policies of racial hatred, including the phenomenon of hostility against foreigners.

23. Since the prohibition of racial discrimination, which was enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, was far from being implemented, it was imperative to make all efforts to translate into practice the decisions of the Second World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.⁴ The priorities set by the Declaration of that Conference and by the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination,² as well as by the reports of the United Nations Secretary-General on the plan of activities for 1985-1989,³ remained fully valid.

24. By intensifying its Fascist policy of *apartheid*, the racist régime of South Africa had provoked an ever more explosive situation in that country. That régime was trying by force and demagoguery to counter the upswing of the people's struggle against the system of institutionalized racism. Under the declaration of a state of emergency in dozens of districts, adopted as a terror measure, the opponents of *apartheid* had been officially declared fair game for the South African police and army and the number of victims illustrated the extent of the resulting terror and brutality. In 1985 alone, 137 prisoners had been executed and the police had killed more than 1,000 and arrested more than 36,000 opponents of *apartheid*. Although the state of emergency had been formally lifted, the bloody reprisals against the black majority continued unabated.

25. The United Nations General Assembly at its fortieth session and the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-second session had condemned vigorously the continued gross and massive violations of human rights by the racist régime. In view of the countless victims of *apartheid*, the Commission on Human Rights had reaffirmed in its resolution 1986/7 that the crime of *apartheid* was a form of genocide. His country, for its part, demanded the

⁴See Report of the Second World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, Geneva, 1-12 August 1983 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.XIV.4 and corrigendum), chaps. II and III.

immediate elimination of *apartheid*, and freedom for Nelson Mandela and all political prisoners in South Africa.

26. The terror used by the South African régime in its own country was linked inseparably with its policy of aggression and destabilization against independent African States. The permanent raids against the front-line States and the support for counter-revolutionary gangs in Angola and Mozambique belied Pretoria's talk of a so-called policy of good-neighbourliness and its alleged readiness for understanding. Those facts, and the continuing illegal occupation of Namibia, demonstrated clearly that it was South Africa's policy of State terrorism that was dangerously aggravating the situation in southern Africa and thus threatening international peace and security. His country reaffirmed its position that Namibia must be granted its independence immediately under Security Council resolution 435 (1978) and that Decree No. 1 for the Protection of the Natural Resources of Namibia,⁵ enacted by the United Nations Council for Namibia, must be implemented in order to put an end to the exploitation of the Namibian people and their natural resources by the racist State and transnational corporations.

27. A few days previously, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of his country, Mr. Oskar Fischer, responding to a message from his Angolan counterpart Mr. Alfonso van Dunem, had emphasized that the German Democratic Republic would continue to show firm solidarity with Angola and shared the Angolan Government's concern at the deteriorating situation in southern Africa and the resulting dangers for peace and stability in the region. Mr. Fischer had added that the dangerous plans against Angola formed part of the policy of the most aggressive imperialist circles in their struggle for domination, a policy aimed also at undermining a political settlement of the question of Namibia and perpetuating the *apartheid* system in South Africa. Finally, he had emphasized that the implementation of Angola's realistic proposals would lead to a just, lasting and peaceful settlement of the problems in the region, including the Namibian problem.

28. Between 1 January 1985 and the present, the Security Council had had to deal with the alarming situation in South Africa more than 10 times and, in numerous resolutions, had resolutely condemned the racist régime for its peace-threatening policies. The circumstances which enabled that régime permanently to disregard the demands of the Security Council and of the overwhelming majority of States Members of the United Nations were the constant collaboration it received from certain imperialist Powers and from corporations under their jurisdiction. Although the Commission on Human Rights at its 1986 session had reaffirmed in its resolution 1986/5 that any form of assistance given to the racist régime constituted a hostile act against the oppressed people of southern Africa in their struggle for freedom and independence and obstructed efforts aimed at the elimination of colonialism, *apartheid* and racial discrimination in South Africa and Namibia, those Powers continued their support for the Pretoria régime in many ways and on various flimsy pretexts, even going so far as to call it "constructive engagement".

⁵Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 24 (A/35/24), vol. I, annex II.

29. His country vigorously condemned such machinations and shared fully the position of the Group of Three as confirmed by the Commission on Human Rights in the resolution he had referred to, that the actions of transnational corporations which operated in South Africa came under the definition of the crime of *apartheid*.

30. It was high time to force Pretoria to abandon its anachronistic policy of *apartheid* by imposing comprehensive and mandatory sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations. Now that international pressure was forcing the régime to manoeuvre, as its latest announcement cancelling the infamous pass laws demonstrated, the sham boycotts and half-hearted sanctions advocated by some Member States no longer sufficed. Rather, all States must unite to use fully the potential offered by the Charter to pave the way for all people in South Africa to live in peace, freedom and justice.

31. In view of the alliance between South Africa and Israel—a result of the fact that the two States' policies were identical—it was no wonder that in the occupied Arab territories the occupiers were guilty of gross and massive violations of human rights. Despite world protest, Israel was pursuing its settlements policy against the Arab population, in total violation of international law. On the West Bank, for instance, Israel had already confiscated more than half the land and more than three quarters of the wells with the obvious aim of driving the Palestinians from their homeland and perpetuating its occupation. At its forty-second session, the Commission on Human Rights had again, in its resolution 1986/1, condemned Israel for its violation of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War⁶ and for its ill-treatment and torture of Palestinian prisoners.

32. Only a few days previously, at the Eleventh Congress of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, Mr. Erich Honecker, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party and Chairman of the Council of State of the German Democratic Republic, had reaffirmed that what was required was a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the Middle East conflict which could be achieved only through the collective efforts of all concerned, and had declared his country's support for the proposal to convene an international conference on the Middle East under United Nations auspices and with the participation of all interested parties, including the Palestine Liberation Organization.

33. In a number of States, there could be observed the dangerous and growing influence of reactionary and right-extremist ideologies and organizations with Fascist or neo-Fascist tendencies. As a result, at the initiative of the German Democratic Republic, the General Assembly had adopted a number of condemnatory resolutions. His country would continue, as in the past, its consistent efforts, in accordance with the basic principles of its Constitution, to combat fascism and racism and all other ideologies and practices based on racial intolerance and hatred and racist terror. It would also continue to contribute to the speedy and full implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.²

34. Mr. LINDGREN (Brazil) said that, since there was a universal consensus that *apartheid* constituted

⁶United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 75, No. 973, p. 287.

the most brutal form of racial discrimination in the world of today, delegations must not hesitate to reaffirm their repudiation of a system which not only denied the most elementary rights to the overwhelming majority of its people, but tried to destabilize the Governments of its neighbours, spread violence throughout southern Africa and illegally occupied the territory of Namibia.

35. In 1985, the world had witnessed an unprecedented mobilization in favour of eradicating the *apartheid* system. Governments, organizations, movements and individuals had joined their voices everywhere to support the just claims of the South African majority. Voluntary sanctions had been imposed against the *apartheid* régime by institutions, enterprises and Governments, some of which have always denied the efficacy of such measures as a means to achieve the end of the *apartheid* system.

36. Pretoria's response could not have been more arrogant. Aware that the initiative for liberation belonged to the South African people, the Government of Pretoria had declared a state of emergency in large parts of the country, detained several thousand people, harassed women and children, forbidden gatherings of all kinds, even on the occasion of funerals, and stimulated the discord it had always sown among the oppressed majority. On the other hand, conscious of the impact that the internal rebellion was having on public opinion abroad, the same authorities had severely restricted news coverage of the events, often resorting to acts of violence against the journalists who were showing to the world the reality of South Africa's spurious brand of democracy.

37. At the beginning of March 1986, in widely-publicized statements, Pretoria had announced what had seemed to be two important decisions: the lifting of the state of emergency and the intention to start implementing Security Council resolution 435 (1978) in August. The serious intent of those announcements appeared to be questionable. The lifting of the state of emergency had just been balanced by the introduction of new legislation which endowed the Minister of Law and Order with the authority to declare any part of the country an "unrest area". Repressive measures could thus be adopted more easily against the population. The recent presidential bill concerning the abolition of the "pass laws" involved several conditions which would tend to continue to limit the free movement of black people. The removal of families and individuals, together with the projected granting of fictitious independence to Kangwane in December 1986, were elements that were still unclear and might indicate that the policy of bantustanization would tend to go on.

38. Lastly, the Government had declared its intention to start implementing Security Council resolution 435 (1978) in Namibia, but had imposed prior conditions on the Government of Angola, raising once again extraneous and unacceptable issues, in the very year of the twentieth anniversary of the termination by the General Assembly, in its resolution 2145 (XXI), of South Africa's mandate over the territory of Namibia.

39. As to the stipulations of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination,² his delegation wished to recall that, since 1951, Brazilian legislation had qualified racial discrimination as a punishable crime.

Adopted domestically long before the proclamation in 1973, by the United Nations General Assembly, of the first Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, such legislation was the natural juridical reflection of the very characteristics of Brazilian society, conscious and proud of the different races and cultures that had contributed to its formation.

40. Besides the legal document of 1951, which had been continually brought up to date, innumerable other measures had been adopted in Brazil in order to enhance racial harmony in the country and to stress the importance of all the cultural values that had mingled to form the Brazilian nation.

41. With regard to the first part of the Programme of Action, which concerned international action against *apartheid*, the most far-reaching practices adopted by the Brazilian Government for many years, in compliance with United Nations resolutions, had been transformed into law on 9 August 1985. The decree signed by the President of the Republic on that date prohibited cultural, artistic and sports exchanges with South Africa and the export of petroleum and its by-products, as well as arms, ammunition and any related material, to that country, and forbade the transit through Brazilian territory of any military or paramilitary material bound for South Africa or the territory of illegally-occupied Namibia.

42. There were no Brazilian investments, credit lines, official trade promotion or official support for tourism *vis-à-vis* South Africa. The co-operation between Brazil and the front-line States had been constantly expanding, both on a bilateral basis and through the Southern African Defence Co-ordination Committee, whose annual conferences Brazil had attended since 1980. Likewise, Brazilian support for the people struggling against oppression in South Africa and Namibia took the form of contributions to the pertinent United Nations funds and other initiatives, such as the seminar organized at Rio de Janeiro for members of SWAPO in 1984, and courses in the Portuguese language held at Campinas in 1985, also for members of that liberation movement.

43. From document E/1986/14 and Add.1 it was apparent that few Governments had submitted timely replies to the questionnaire distributed by the Secretary-General. In several United Nations organs, discussions had been going on concerning the difficulties many countries faced in complying with their innumerable reporting obligations. Brazil was one of them: while it supported and participated in the initiatives adopted within the United Nations framework to combat racism and racial discrimination, its eighth periodic report had been delayed and had had to be prepared in consolidated form together with the ninth periodic report. It was natural that all delegations pursued their efforts to eradicate racism and *apartheid*; sometimes, however, by drafting and approving paragraphs which requested too many reports on similar issues, they were duplicating or multiplying obligations which they themselves were afterwards unable to heed. Perhaps with fewer reports to submit, more time and attention would be left for Governments to dedicate themselves to the substance of their ideals. Much more useful than the description of one's actions were the actions themselves: and concerted action was what the world needed for the eradication of racism and *apartheid*.

44. Mr. SAFRONCHUK (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that, more than 40 years earlier, the Hitlerite scourge of racism and fascism had been stamped out in the bloodiest and most destructive war in the history of mankind. Based on a State doctrine and policy of racial superiority, the Hitlerite racism had subjected peoples to the disaster of a world war, committed heinous crimes, taken millions upon millions of human lives and threatened to subjugate the human race and destroy world culture. Born of that historic victory, the United Nations had embodied in its Charter the lofty ideals of respect for equal rights for all people, without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion. Determined action against racism and racial discrimination was one of the most important tasks of the United Nations, consistent with its main objectives of maintaining international peace and security, developing friendly relations among nations and promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

45. The United Nations had made important contributions to the struggle against racism and racial discrimination. At the insistence of an overwhelming majority of States, it had adopted historic documents against colonialism and genocide, the criminal policy of State racism and expansionist zionism. Two of the foremost among them were the United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination⁷ and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.¹ Based on the Charter of the United Nations, those instruments signalled a turning point in international co-operation, the promotion of human rights and the struggle against national and racial inequality, oppression and injustice. It was important that the Convention did not confine itself to general, non-binding declarations but, rather, placed States under a legal obligation to combat any manifestation of racism and racial discrimination. The Charter, together with the Declaration and the Convention, constituted an important international legal basis for the observance and promotion of human rights. If the international legal norms enshrined in those documents were not observed, there could be no respect for human rights. Many States with different social systems and different levels of economic development had ratified or acceded to the International Convention. The fact that 124 States were parties to the Convention was incontrovertible proof of its effectiveness and vitality. It was the duty of all States to ensure universal recognition and implementation of the international rules concerning the elimination of racism and racial discrimination.

46. Loyal to the Leninist principles of its foreign policy, the Soviet Union was labouring firmly and consistently to eliminate all racism and racial discrimination. The Soviet Union was a party to all the international instruments against racism. It had assumed legal obligations under the Convention, and was participating actively in its implementation, reporting regularly to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination regarding compliance with the provisions of the Convention. The Soviet Union had been the first to raise the lofty banner of the struggle for liberation and equality of all peoples and races.

47. The Great October Socialist Revolution had eliminated social and national oppression, and had given over 100 nationalities the opportunity to shape their own independent and creative histories. It would be recalled that, in the Declaration of Rights of the Peoples of Russia, one of its first legislative acts, the Soviet State had proclaimed the abolition of all national and religious privileges and restrictions. Fundamental social transformations and elimination of all vestiges of national and racial enmity and inequality had laid the groundwork for the unfettered development of all nationalities and ethnic groups, and for close unity and friendship among them. Equal rights and friendship among peoples reflected important aspects of the essence of socialism.

48. He further recalled that the Constitutions of the Soviet Union and the Union Republics, and Soviet legislative acts, established that Soviet citizens of different races and nationalities should enjoy equal rights in all spheres of economic, political and cultural life. Any attempt to limit citizens' rights or to grant privileges, whether direct or indirect, on racial or national grounds, as well as any propagation of racial or national exclusivity, enmity or contempt, were punishable offences under Soviet law. The legal guarantees of national and racial equality were ensured through the State policy of comprehensive development, unity and friendship among all the nations and nationalities of the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union deemed it important to ensure equality of all nations and nationalities in the country, not only legally but in practice as well. As a result of considerable effort by all Soviet peoples, the nationalities of the country's outlying regions, once doomed to century-long backwardness had attained statehood, developed mature economies and seen their own science and culture flourish.

49. The Soviet attitude toward equality and the elimination of racism had been convincingly expressed by Mr. Gorbachev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, in an interview given to *L'Humanité*:

"I believe that in a civilized society there must be no room at all for anti-Semitism, zionism or any other manifestation of nationalism, chauvinism or racism. And the problem of eradicating these evils on a global scale is very urgent. In South Africa, the racists have committed acts of bloody repression against the black majority. Pogroms and acts of violence against African blacks, Indians, Turks and immigrants from other Asian countries have become more frequent in Western European countries. Racism manifestly has launched a counter-offensive in the United States in the past few years. And the Arab people of Palestine have been locked out of their land for many years."

50. The Soviet Union called upon Western countries that represented themselves as human-rights advocates to translate their words into deeds. That process should begin with a total ban on racism and racial discrimination, racist organizations and racist propaganda in their own countries, while at the international level it should start with total isolation of the heinous régime of racism and *apartheid* in South Africa and aggressive zionism in Israel. That was called for in the Charter of the United Nations, in the declarations and conventions against genocide, *apartheid* and racial discrimination and in numerous resolutions of the General Assembly and of the Commission on Human Rights.

⁷General Assembly resolution 1904 (XVIII).

51. He was referring particularly to the United States. He wondered why, thus far, the United States had not ratified or acceded to the conventions against genocide, *apartheid* and racial discrimination. The United Nations had entered the fifth decade of its existence. It was time for the United States to abandon its double-standard rhetoric, become party to those conventions and join other States in combating racism and racial discrimination in practice. It was also time for the United States to discontinue its sabotage of the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination proclaimed by the United Nations.

52. Taking the matter seriously and facing reality, there was no denying that State racism and racial discrimination were directly and closely linked to the policy of certain Western States. If those States had strictly followed the lofty principles and objectives of the Charter of the United Nations and had put them into practice as norms and rules of behaviour, racism and racial discrimination would have been eradicated. It was no secret that certain Western States, while proclaiming their commitment to the ideals of equality and human rights, in fact were pursuing the opposite policy by encouraging racism and racial discrimination. That was the root cause of the survival of racism and the main reason it had persisted so long in various forms, primarily in the most criminal and dangerous form of State ideology and policy.

53. The racists in South Africa were currently committing the most flagrant and intolerable violations of human rights. New victims of racist terror and massacre were perishing in the streets of South African cities and townships and in the prisons of the racist régime. The army and police were firing point-blank at innocent civilians and anyone demonstrating against *apartheid*. Proclaiming insane ideals of racial superiority, the South African racists were endeavouring to consolidate by terror a system of racist enslavement and absence of rights created by them and patterned on the Nazi Reich. A recent editorial in *The New York Times* of 24 April said that in July 1985 one or two Africans died every day in South Africa; when the régime declared that the situation was improving, however, there were four deaths per day. Since then, the number of victims had increased, and now six persons were dying every day as a result of the Government's repression. A recent issue of *Time* magazine pointed out that in the preceding 20 months more than 1,500 persons, most of them Africans, had died as a result of the racist repression.

54. The deep crisis of the criminal domestic and foreign policy of the racist State had shaken the foundations of the racist *apartheid* system and was creating the conditions for its final and complete elimination. It was no coincidence that even in the Western press *apartheid* was often compared with a putrid cadaver whose venomous remains were poisoning the situation in South Africa, southern Africa and the whole world. It was necessary to eradicate without delay the racist policy of South Africa, condemned by the United Nations as a crime against the peace and security of mankind.

55. In the context of the general crisis of *apartheid* in South Africa, the racists must not be given time to recover and regroup their forces, to initiate deceptive movements and step up reprisals and aggression. It was especially important to block all channels of

political, military and economic assistance to the racist régime. The response could not be limited to words of condemnation and appeals for partial reforms of *apartheid*. It was necessary to implement vigorously and fully the decisions of the Security Council on the imposition of sanctions and to implement the General Assembly resolutions which called for an end to the policy and system of *apartheid* in South Africa, its colonial occupation of Namibia and the acts of aggression against neighbouring African States.

56. The expansionist policy of Zionism currently constituted another shameful and criminal manifestation of a racist State policy and ideology. Zionism had been condemned by the United Nations as a form of racism and racial discrimination. The racist policy of Zionism had led to the acts of aggression and expansion perpetrated by the ruling circles of Israel, which was committing flagrant violations of the inalienable rights of the Arab peoples, including the national rights of the Arab people of Palestine.

57. The reactivation of racist, ultra-rightist and militaristic organizations in a number of Western countries endangered the cause of peace. Those organizations blatantly announced their existence by acts of terrorism, anti-Semitism and racism. Unfortunately, they were allowed openly to proclaim concepts of racial superiority and to create an atmosphere of hatred and hostility among nations. They were even admitted to Parliament. Racist and Fascist organizations were used as instruments of terror and reprisal against workers, and against those who fought for the equality and freedom of peoples. That proved that some Western circles had apparently forgotten the lessons of Hitler's nazism and racism, had forgotten that Hitler's fascism had begun with the establishment of Nazi organizations and their subsequent consolidation through the stepping up of their activities and propaganda. Elimination of racism and racial discrimination should start with the banning and total elimination of all Fascist organizations and their propaganda. In the course of the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, activities aimed at banning and eliminating racist organizations and propaganda should be strengthened.

58. Despite numerous United Nations decisions and relevant international instruments, the infamous system of racial discrimination had become even more entrenched and it continued to function in some Western countries, whose representatives were fond of lecturing others on the issue of human rights. That system doomed millions to a life without rights, to poverty and often to hunger, simply because their skin was of a different colour. In some Western countries, not only certain individuals but millions of persons—blacks and Indians, migrant workers, people of Asian, African and Latin American descent—were falling victim to racial discrimination. Abstract and hypocritical reasoning about equal rights could not conceal the tragedy of the millions who were the first to be dismissed from their jobs, were confined to slums and ghettos and were denied equal rights and real opportunities to enjoy basic social and economic rights. It was well known what destiny lay in store for those who struggled for equal rights and against discrimination, and what methods of reprisal and pressure were used against them.

59. The principled position of the Soviet Union on those problems had been reaffirmed at the Twenty-

seventh Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. Among the humanitarian principles which must form the foundation of an all-embracing system of international security, the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party had named extirpation of genocide, *apartheid*, fascism and every other form of racial, national or religious exclusiveness, and also of discrimination against people on that basis.

60. The Soviet Union had consistently supported the strict implementation of the Programme for the first Decade, and its support remained unchanged in respect of the Second Decade; it therefore supported the measures taken to ensure effective implementation of the plan of activities for the period 1985-1989.³ It also was in favour of complete elimination of the system of State racism in South Africa and the decisive eradication of racial discrimination. His delegation would also support the adoption by the Economic and Social Council of effective measures aimed at the immediate implementation of the Programme of Action and the fundamental international instruments which demanded the elimination of *apartheid*, racism and all forms of racial discrimination.

61. Mr. MATELJAK (Yugoslavia) said that, in spite of the action taken by the United Nations and the international community, various forms of racism and racial discrimination were still practised throughout the world. Millions were exposed daily to such practices; aside from the peoples of South Africa and Namibia and the Palestinian people, there were other vulnerable groups such as national ethnic minorities, migrant workers and indigenous peoples. The position of migrant workers had been further exacerbated as the world economic situation deteriorated. The Arab population of the occupied Arab territories was being subjected to mass and flagrant violation of its human rights because of its national origin. In particular, the Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip were being denied the right to self-determination and other basic human rights. At the same time, the Government of Israel was systematically pursuing its policy of expansionism and annexation of Arab territories, defying all the relevant resolutions and decisions of United Nations bodies.

62. Racism had its main stronghold in southern Africa, where it manifested itself in its most abhorrent and aggressive form—the *apartheid* policy of the racist South African régime—in the occupation of Namibia and in its aggressive acts against neighbouring African States. The racist régime's actions were not limited to internal oppression of the population but involved aggression against neighbouring countries which threatened their independence, political stability and territorial integrity and blatantly violated international peace and security.

63. Recent developments in South Africa demonstrated that the *apartheid* system was nearing its end. The growing number of mass demonstrations and protests clearly showed the South African peoples' determination to get rid of *apartheid* and achieve freedom and human dignity. Their struggle had compelled the racist Pretoria régime to lift the state of emergency in the country and adopt certain "positive" measures, to give the impression that it was starting to move towards change. It was clear, however, that the ultimate aim of those measures was to strengthen and prolong the life of *apartheid*. The

racist South African régime had concomitantly intensified its oppressive policy, and the daily rate of innocent victims was rising steadily.

64. The *apartheid* régime could not be reformed but must be eliminated. It was clear that the régime could not pursue its policy and actions without the co-operation and assistance it received from certain States and from the transnational corporations. Strict adherence to United Nations resolutions and decisions was therefore a pre-condition for successfully combating *apartheid*. No economic, strategic or other interest could justify violating those resolutions and decisions. In the same way, the policy known as "constructive engagement" had no justification and served only to prolong the life of the *apartheid* régime.

65. In order to step up the struggle against all forms of racism and racial discrimination, the United Nations and the whole international community must adopt effective new measures; among them, increased moral, political and material assistance to the liberation movements in southern Africa and to the Palestine Liberation Organization; international isolation of South Africa, politically, economically and militarily, including full implementation of sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations; a universal and more consistent implementation of the international conventions on racial discrimination and *apartheid*, and effective implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.²

66. Obviously, the extent to which each Member State subscribed to the struggle against racism and racial discrimination would be the criterion for judging the sincerity of its participation in United Nations efforts to secure respect for and promotion of human rights in general. Yugoslavia had taken an active part in all steps taken to that end by the United Nations, the non-aligned movement and other international bodies. In addition to ratifying and consistently implementing the conventions on racial discrimination and *apartheid*, it was giving moral and political support and material assistance to the liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity and to the Palestine Liberation Organization, and had taken all the measures needed to realize the objectives of the Programme of Action.

67. Mr. VILLAGRA DELGADO (Argentina) said that the struggle against racism and racial discrimination was one of the most important tasks facing the United Nations and that the adoption of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination¹ and the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of *Apartheid*⁶ had laid the legal bases for creating a world without racism or racial discrimination.

68. None the less, despite the great value of the measures adopted during the first Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, much remained to be done. Practices of racism and racial discrimination persisted, at times manifestly and at times in a disguised form.

69. The most serious example was undoubtedly to be found in South Africa, where racism and racial discrimination had been institutionalized in order to

²General Assembly resolution 3068 (XXVIII), annex.

deprive the majority of the population of their most elementary rights and to continue the illegal domination and colonial exploitation of Namibia. The oppression generated by the *apartheid* system was at the root of the violence and instability in South Africa and Namibia, which were being transmitted also to the other States of the region as a result of the aggressive policies of the Pretoria Government.

70. The application of sanctions by the Security Council in accordance with Chapter VII of the Charter could produce useful results in the effort to put an end to *apartheid*. On behalf of the Government and people of Argentina, his delegation appealed to the South African Government to arrange for the immediate and unconditional release of Nelson Mandela.

71. In addition, the United Nations must act with an awareness of other more subtle instances of discrimination, such as that to which migrant workers were subjected, often on racial grounds, in various developed countries.

72. Mr. ABOU-HADID (Syrian Arab Republic) said that the activities that were part of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination had been conceived to eliminate racism, racial discrimination and the *apartheid* system, and therefore his Government fully supported them. However, it was clear from the Secretary-General's report (E/1986/15) that there were reasons for concern, because the activities had not met the expectations of those suffering those scourges.

73. Indeed, in South Africa an entire people was enduring the oppression imposed by a white racist minority and was being deprived, for racial reasons, of its fundamental right to live in peace in the land of its ancestors. For its part, the Palestinian population of the occupied Arab territories had something in common with the black population of southern Africa in that it, too, was being deprived of its basic human rights. The Tel Aviv régime was, in fact, trying to expel the Palestinians from their territories and was practising a policy of terror against any who remained there.

74. It was worth wondering why racial discrimination had not yet been eliminated from the world. The answer was very clear: because there had not been political will on the part of all States and because not all States had committed themselves to the imposition of sanctions, thus preventing the United Nations and other international bodies from fulfilling their responsibilities to the oppressed peoples.

75. The continued implementation of the oppressive policies of the régimes of South Africa and Israel was due to the growing moral and the material support provided to them by certain States which claimed to be in favour of civilization and human rights. Nevertheless, Pretoria's acts of aggression against neighbouring States and the acts against the population of the occupied Arab territories would not have occurred if the Western States did not support those régimes and their policies.

76. His country had acceded in 1969 to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination¹ and had also submitted its report on measures taken under the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination. Syrian society was free from problems of racial discrimination because the

entire population had the same rights and obligations and also enjoyed equal opportunities. Under Syrian law there were provisions against intolerance and for the elimination of differences between the various categories or groups of persons. Acts of discrimination were prohibited by law because they undermined national unity and because the social and religious values of the country were based on love, mutual respect and devotion to freedom.

77. His Government supported the rights of all indigenous populations and the cause of oppressed peoples and maintained that it was necessary to isolate the racist régimes at both the national and the international level. Accordingly, it was prepared to co-operate in all activities aimed at achieving that goal, and hoped that the financial crisis of the Organization would not be used as a pretext to restrict the activities which were undertaken within the framework of the Second Decade in order to prevent the spread of the scourge of racism and racial discrimination.

78. Mr. AMSELEM (United States of America), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that Cuba had claimed that in the United States there was a racist régime which oppressed the black population and other minorities. The truth was that a large number of black Cubans had fled to the United States; some 10 to 15 per cent of the population of that country had fled to the United States. With regard to the statement made by the USSR delegation, it should be stressed that the United States had already ratified the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide.⁹ Although the Soviet delegation had referred to the Nazi régime, it had not mentioned the alliance which had existed between the régime and the Soviet Union until 1941. The Soviet delegation had also condemned anti-semitism without stating that the Soviet Union was the most anti-semitic State in the world. Lastly, he pointed out that that delegation had based its references on information from the Western press and not its own because the latter could not even provide information on what had happened in Chernobyl.

79. Mr. MORA-GODOY (Observer for Cuba), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that, since the question of discrimination and racism was under consideration, it should be pointed out that in the United States there were, for example, 26 million black men, women and children who lacked schools and jobs and lived in generally inhuman conditions. Twenty-nine per cent of the male black population was unemployed. Furthermore, with regard to the racist régime of South Africa, it was the United States which supported and financed that régime and supplied it with arms to attack Angola, Mozambique and Lesotho and obstruct efforts to bring about Namibian independence.

80. Mr. SAFRONCHUK (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that the representative of the United States showed his ignorance of the history of the Second World War. Everyone knew that the Soviet Union had been forced to conclude an agreement with Hitler's Germany, which it had broken once the Western Powers had allied themselves with the Soviet Union and enabled it to repulse the attack of Nazi Germany, albeit at the immense sacrifice of 20

⁹General Assembly resolution 260 A (III), annex.

million human lives. It was unfortunate that the representative of the United States had forgotten the historic collaboration between the two countries and resorted to such affronts in exercising his right of reply. Furthermore, he used specious arguments with regard to the recent and distressing accident which had occurred at the Chernobyl nuclear-power station, which the sensationalist press in the United States had exaggerated. There had been an accident in one of the four nuclear reactors which had caused the emission of radioactive material, but effective measures had been taken to assist the victims and evacuate the population affected, and the situation had been brought under control. He expressed gratitude to the delegations which had demonstrated their solidarity with the Soviet Union in connection with that accident. It should be kept in mind that there had already been 300 accidents in nuclear installations in the United States; for that reason, the United States should not forget that, when a country was trying to make use of new forms of energy, there were also risks and no one was guaranteed absolute success. Furthermore, if one was to speak of accidents, the Union Carbide accident in India, the victims of which had still not received compensation, could not be forgotten.

81. Mr. AMSELEM (United States of America), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that the delegation of Cuba referred selectively to statistics from the free press of the United States. Although it was attempting to demonstrate the existence of certain social conditions in the country, that delegation had still not answered the fundamental question: if the United States was so terrible, why did so many Cubans continue to take refuge there? The Soviet representative also distorted the history of his country's alliance with Hitler. But now that fascism had been destroyed, it should be asked why the Soviet

Union did not return the territories which it had occupied as a result of that alliance, such as Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, part of Poland and of central and eastern Europe, not to mention other regions in Asia? He thanked the representative of the Soviet Union for the information on Chernobyl and expressed the hope that the Soviet people would also receive that information, because it seemed that they were unaware of much of what had occurred.

82. Mr. MORA-GODOY (Observer for Cuba), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that the representative of the United States should measure his words with regard to Cuba and that it should not be forgotten that the Government of the United States was hiding behind its statements on anti-terrorism in order to commit acts of terrorism, as had been the case recently in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, where it had attacked the civilian population, or that it used paramilitary forces, such as the Ku Klux Klan and other organizations of that type, in order to attack minorities and violate their civil rights.

83. Mr. SAFRONCHUK (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that the representative of the United States had once again demonstrated his ignorance of the history and constitutional structure of the Soviet Union with regard to the pact with the Hitler régime and the republics which he had referred to, which formed part of the Soviet Union, just as any state in the United States had been an integral part of that country from the moment it had been annexed, beginning with the 13 colonies which had achieved independence from Great Britain. Referring to the information on Chernobyl, he said that TASS news agency had already disseminated news on that subject among the Soviet population.

The meeting rose at 5.30 p.m.

7th meeting

Thursday, 1 May 1986, at 10.40 a.m.

President: Mr. Manuel DOS SANTOS (Mozambique)

E/1986/SR.7

AGENDA ITEM 2

Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (continued) (E/1986/14 and Add.1, E/1986/15, E/1986/53)

1. Mr. TANASA (Romania) said that racism and racial discrimination, particularly *apartheid*, had been consistently denounced by the United Nations as an outrage. South Africa was in flagrant violation of the basic principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights¹⁰ and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.¹ South Africa's policies threatened the very foundations of freedom, justice and peace. All appeals for a constructive dialogue with South Africa had been

arrogantly rejected by the racist régime. Measures taken by Member States had not brought about any change.

2. It was clear that the racist régime had intensified its brutal repression of the majority population through the imposition of emergency laws. *Apartheid* and the enforcement of racial supremacy were being strengthened through so-called constitutional reforms. The constitutional measures were actually intended to undermine the unity of the opponents of *apartheid*.

3. The racist régime had extended the rule of *apartheid* to Namibia, thus denying the inalienable rights of the Namibian people, even though the Territory was the direct responsibility of the United Nations. In obstructing Namibia's access to independence, South Africa was trying to gain sufficient time to impose a neo-colonialist solution in order to secure its continued hegemony over the Territory.

¹⁰General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

4. All States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations should terminate any collaboration with the racist régime, since such assistance contributed to the continuance of *apartheid*. No action should be taken that might imply recognition of or support for the illegal occupation of Namibia.
5. The strengthening of international co-operation and peace, the protection of human rights, and the struggle against *apartheid* were closely linked. Measures to combat racial discrimination should include steps to improve living conditions so that current social and economic inequalities would disappear. In that connection, it should be noted that article 28 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights established that everyone was entitled to a social order in which the rights set forth in the Declaration could be fully realized. Romania was convinced that the establishment of a new international economic order would be an important means of combating the causes of racism, and that international development co-operation had an important role to play in securing the resources required by developing countries to achieve their socio-economic objectives.
6. In keeping with its policy of militant solidarity against foreign domination, Romania condemned all manifestations of colonialism and neo-colonialism, the racist policy of *apartheid*, and the illegal occupation of Namibia. His Government fully supported the struggle of the African peoples to consolidate their independence and secure the rights of the majority population of South Africa. To that end, Romania actively supported liberation movements in southern Africa.
7. The struggle of the majority population of South Africa would ultimately be crowned with success. The United Nations should redouble its efforts to support the oppressed peoples of southern Africa, eliminate tension in the area and safeguard international peace and security, by implementing the objectives of the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.
8. Mr. MAKSIMOV (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) said that racism and racial discrimination were not only violations of human rights but major threats to international peace and security. In 1985, the international community had celebrated the fortieth anniversary of the victory over fascism, the most vile form of racism. It was now understood that racial discrimination developed whenever an ideology of supremacy was espoused and efforts were made to exploit other nations. Racial discrimination, which gave rise to subjugation, simply served the interests of the most reactionary imperialist circles.
9. The most blatant example of racial discrimination was offered by South Africa, which was little more than a gigantic labour camp. It was clear that the Government of South Africa was pursuing a *de facto* policy of genocide. The policies of the Western States which blocked sanctions against South Africa were short-sighted.
10. In 1984, over 1,000 transnational corporations had had subsidiaries in South Africa, in stark contrast to the demands by the United Nations for the imposition of embargoes on the supply of oil and military equipment to that country. South Africa had an impressive military production capacity, based on licences from transnational corporations. Western collaboration in the field of nuclear energy posed a particular threat to international peace and security, in that it facilitated the development of nuclear weapons by the racist régime.
11. The Byelorussian SSR condemned all Fascist and neo-Fascist ideologies and practices. The socialist system of democracy fully protected the rights of the people of the Byelorussian SSR, irrespective of their origin, and precluded all possibility of racial discrimination.
12. At the fortieth session of the General Assembly, his delegation had supported all the draft resolutions adopted on South Africa and Namibia. The voting on those resolutions had revealed the hypocrisy of those States which criticized South Africa but ensured its survival through the activities of transnational corporations. The limited sanctions adopted were a sop to public opinion. Aid to South Africa amounted to complicity with the *apartheid* régime.
13. In the Middle East, Israel was committing crimes against the Palestinian people, denying them their right to nationhood. The General Assembly had called upon States to end co-operation with Israel, whose occupation of Arab territory was a gross violation of international law. A just solution in the Middle East would be possible only with the withdrawal of Israeli forces and the guaranteeing of the rights of the Palestinian people, taking into account the legitimate interests of all the parties. An international conference should be convened with the participation of all those concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organization.
14. During the remainder of the Second Decade, efforts must be made to counter open expressions of racial discrimination, wherever they occurred, and to end racism. His Government's opposition to racial discrimination sprang from the essence of socialism. The Byelorussian SSR appealed to those States which had not yet done so to become parties to the relevant international agreements. His delegation fully supported the Programme of Action for the Second Decade.
15. Mr. QUINN (Australia) said that in the current review of the Organization's finances and priorities, delegations should consider what special role the Economic and Social Council could play. In the view of his delegation, the Council should seek to improve co-ordination and effectiveness in tackling racial discrimination. Its debates also provided an opportunity to draw attention to recent developments concerning the Programme of Action for the Second Decade.
16. Racial discrimination and racism were global phenomena affecting every society, and demanded concerted efforts based on an understanding of their root causes. Australia welcomed the emphasis on concrete initiatives such as the development of national legislation. Steps by the United Nations to bring about attitudinal change were of particular importance. Australia had been active in encouraging United Nations public information activities in the field of human rights through the development of teaching materials. The Australian Human Rights Commission was also developing materials for use in Australian schools.
17. The emphasis placed in the Council on system-wide activities was of interest, and his delegation would welcome a consolidated list of system-wide activities to combat racial discrimination. United Nations activities had changed attitudes towards racial discrimination. The Organization should con-

tinue to play an inspirational role despite the current crisis of confidence. The maintenance of consensus on the Decade in recent years had been a significant achievement.

18. It was imperative for the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) to be put back on a stable financial footing. In that connection, his delegation would appreciate an explanation of why the recommendation that CERD should meet at Geneva for the foreseeable future on the ground of economy seemed to have been brushed aside. Further, CERD should review the current reporting procedure in order to ensure that the backlog of reports was cleared up. The current requirement of a comprehensive report every other year was unrealistic. The need for further requests for information should be reconsidered since much material was already on record and could be used more effectively.

19. Turning to the question of the abhorrent *apartheid* system, he noted that, according to official South African statistics, almost 800 people had been killed during the state of emergency which had ended in March 1986. Many others had been injured or detained. It was incumbent upon the international community to bring *apartheid* to a speedy end by peaceful means. In that connection, the Commonwealth group of eminent persons had been entrusted with the task of facilitating dialogue and negotiation for prompt and peaceful change. The aim was not to bring South Africa to its knees, but to bring it to its senses.

20. Mr. WIRYONO (Indonesia) said that the documents before the Council amply demonstrated the progress being made at the national and international levels to achieve the objectives of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.² While all elements of the Programme were designed to eradicate racism and racial discrimination, those relating to the critical situation in South Africa deserved particular attention. The fact remained that *apartheid* was the most virulent and universally despised form of racial discrimination. The many United Nations resolutions on *apartheid* reflected an unprecedented consensus among the members of the international community.

21. *Apartheid* could not be modified or improved; it must be totally dismantled so that all South Africans might develop freely. In the past two years, the conflict in South Africa had intensified to an unparalleled extent, and it had become increasingly clear that the South African Government was losing control of the situation. The plight of the thousands of South Africans who had been killed, wounded or imprisoned without trial was of serious concern to the international community, as was the continued incarceration of Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners. The immediate and unconditional release of all detainees must therefore remain one of the main goals of the Second Decade.

22. It was heartening that world public opinion and the concerted efforts of the international community had led some Western countries to impose specific economic sanctions against the racist régime. At the same time, it was unfortunate that the major trading partners of South Africa had made only symbolic gestures which fell short of even the limited economic sanctions called for by the Security Council in its

resolution 569 (1985). Nevertheless, the successes achieved thus far had stimulated global efforts to isolate the South African régime further. World public opinion must continue to be mobilized so that States having leverage with the Pretoria régime might be encouraged to impose meaningful sanctions. In that connection, the public campaign for divestment from companies having interests in South Africa was to be commended.

23. The recent suspension by the South African Government of the pass laws was a welcome confirmation of the effectiveness of international anti-*apartheid* efforts. That gesture, however, was only a token one; South Africa must continue to take steps for the immediate and total abolition of *apartheid*. Failing such comprehensive action, the international community must continue to oppose that system. The World Conference on Sanctions against Racist South Africa, to be held in June 1986, was a timely response to mankind's demands for the elimination of *apartheid*, and every effort must be made to ensure its success.

24. Mrs. LAFORTUNE (Canada) said that the proclamation in Canada of the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination on 21 March 1986 demonstrated her Government's interest in the problem of racial discrimination at a time when private agencies, companies and individuals in Canada were stepping up their anti-*apartheid* activities. It was hoped that all such voluntary measures undertaken in the country, a list of which was to be transmitted to the Secretary-General, would contribute to the dismantling of *apartheid*.

25. Turning to the documents before the Council, she expressed disappointment at the lack of information in document E/1986/15 about the activities of certain United Nations bodies. The Economic and Social Council was supposed to oversee the activities of the various bodies that dealt with racism and racial discrimination. The Council should, for instance, be informed of the activities and decisions of such bodies as the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities and CERD. The latter constituted a focal point for all efforts to combat racial discrimination, since it assessed the activities carried out by States in the context of the periodic country reports submitted to it for consideration. It was extremely important that the Council should take action to promote universal acceptance of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.¹

26. As the United Nations confronted its financial crisis, it was to be hoped that the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities and, particularly, the Working Group on Indigenous Populations would continue to function. In addition, States parties to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination should make every effort to ensure that their financial contributions were received by the Secretariat by 15 June 1986 so that CERD would be able to hold its July 1986 session as scheduled.

27. Mr. ZAHID (Morocco) said that the adoption by the General Assembly of resolution 40/22 without a vote bore witness to the international community's determination to eliminate racism and racial discrimination. The elimination of those scourges was difficult and required individual and collective action at all levels.

28. However, the lack of available financial resources seriously threatened the implementation of activities to combat racism and racial discrimination by States as well as by international organizations. It was to be hoped that the financial constraints which jeopardized the future work of CERD could be lifted so that it could continue to carry out its important task. In addition, States and international organizations should bear in mind the financing of activities to eliminate racism and racial discrimination in drawing up programmes of action and economic and social development plans.

29. Racism and racial discrimination continued to exist, despite all efforts to eliminate them. The perpetuation of the illegal *apartheid* régime in particular posed a veritable challenge to mankind. The international community was therefore entitled to take appropriate collective measures to end *apartheid* and liberate the Namibian and South African peoples.

30. The human rights situation of the population of Israeli-occupied Palestinian and Arab territories was another source of concern to the international community. That situation, which had been described in detail in the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories, transmitted to the General Assembly by a note by the Secretary-General (A/40/702), continued to deteriorate, seriously threatening regional and international peace and stability. The international community must put an end to acts of racism and discrimination in the occupied Arab territories and, furthermore, to the very occupation of those territories, so that the Palestinian people might exercise its inalienable right to self-determination and independence.

31. The contributions of migrant workers to the economic and social development of host countries could not be denied. Yet such workers had increasingly in recent years become victims of discriminatory measures as a result of the slow-down in economic growth. While it was to be hoped that economic recovery would bring with it a lifting of such measures, host country Governments must be encouraged to adopt, as a matter of urgency, an international convention on the rights of migrant workers and legislation to protect them.

32. Efforts to eliminate *apartheid* and restore their inalienable rights to the oppressed peoples of South Africa, Namibia and the occupied Palestinian territories had been constructive and should be expanded during the Second Decade, so that a new world order, fairer and more equitable, might be created.

33. Document E/1986/15 might have been more useful if it had presented the activities of a greater number of organizations involved in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade. If the Council was to play its co-ordinating, evaluating and advisory role fully, it must be provided with all necessary information about such activities. The agencies concerned should therefore be invited once again to inform the Council about their activities to implement the Programme.

34. Mr. GUIDO SPANO (Peru) said that the Peruvian Government had on numerous occasions expressed its strong sense of identity with, and consequent commitment to, the objectives of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,¹ and its full support

for the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.² He drew attention in that connection to the preamble and articles 2 and 80 of the Peruvian Constitution, which expressly provided for racial equality. His Government, in fact, sought to involve all citizens in the socio-economic, political and cultural development of the country, thereby implementing the various international instruments to which Peru was a party.

35. Peru's strong interest in the protection of human rights was consistently reflected in the country's domestic and foreign policies. The militant struggle against *apartheid* was one from which Peru would not shrink; for that reason, the new Government had established diplomatic relations with all the front-line States. The Minister for Foreign Affairs had called for the imposition of mandatory sanctions against South Africa. Peru was a member of the Special Committee against *Apartheid* and chaired the Task Force on Political Prisoners, established by the Special Committee; it had also been a sponsor of numerous draft resolutions condemning *apartheid* and South Africa. In a statement delivered in observance of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the President of Peru had reiterated the country's commitment to the oppressed people of South Africa in its struggle for dignity, justice and freedom. As a multiracial developing country, Peru rejected *apartheid* as a contemporary form of colonialism which ran counter to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and threatened international peace and security.

36. Mr. BARNETT (Jamaica) said that racism and racial discrimination continued to exist in subtle, but no less dangerous, forms than those which had in the past been based on the most unscientific theories of racial inequality and superiority. Contemporary discrimination was especially evident in the treatment of ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, immigrants and migrant workers, and in policies which encouraged inhumane disregard for the rights of certain groups of illegal aliens. The most blatant form of such discrimination was the odious system of *apartheid*. Such practices were an anachronism in a world in which a wealth of information about different peoples existed.

37. Having experienced the effects of policies based on the inequality of peoples during the period of the colonial domination, independent Jamaica had sought to base its legislative and administrative systems on the principle of equality. Its unwillingness to tolerate racist tendencies within the country was matched by its vigilance in respect of such practices at the international level. He therefore wished to reiterate his Government's solidarity with the struggling people of South Africa and Namibia, and with all other victims of racial discrimination in the world. Jamaica supported, in particular, any activities undertaken under the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination with a view to providing legal, technical and financial assistance to groups fighting racist oppression. Since the 1960s, Jamaica had participated in technical and educational exchanges with oppressed and struggling peoples. It would continue to do so.

38. He commended the work done by the Special Committee against *Apartheid* and by CERD, and the efforts of the Special Representative of the Secretary-

General for the co-ordination of activities relating to the Second Decade. Like previous speakers, he would have preferred to see more details in document E/1986/15 concerning the activities of various organizations to implement the Programme of Action.

39. Mr. LY (Senegal) said that there was no longer any need to prove that *apartheid* was the most inhuman institutionalized form of racial discrimination. By its very definition and nature, it could not be reformed. Although the Security Council, in its resolution 581 (1986), had demanded the immediate eradication of *apartheid* and an end to the violence against and repression of the black people, Pretoria had since strengthened its repressive machinery.

40. Genuine change would depend on the establishment of a climate of dialogue on the basis of the unconditional release of Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners, the lifting of the state of emergency, the complete abrogation of repressive legislation against anti-*apartheid* political and social groups, the elimination of discriminatory legislation, and the initiation of open and honest negotiations between the Pretoria authorities and the legitimate representatives of South African liberation movements and patriotic forces. The crusade for peace and justice in South Africa required a continuation and, in particular, a strengthening of efforts to put an end to the abominable policy of *apartheid*. The international community should give tangible evidence of its solidarity with the national liberation movements and the front-line States.

41. While it was more imperative than ever to dismantle and eradicate *apartheid*, it was also important to continue a resolute attack on all forms of racism and discrimination. To that end, the international community, primarily the United Nations, should redouble efforts to implement the activities and programmes against *apartheid* and all forms of racial discrimination adopted in connection with the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination. There was an urgent need to study the effects of racial discrimination on minority children, in particular children of migrant workers, as well as to study the successes and failures of the first Decade and the role of private groups in combating racism and racial discrimination. An objective and lucid assessment of the implementation—or, rather, non-implementation—of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade should be undertaken in accordance with the Council's mandate as set forth in General Assembly resolution 40/22. To that end, all Governments, organizations and individuals in a position to do so should contribute to the Trust Fund for the Programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.

42. He noted that CERD had recently considered Senegal's periodic report for 1981-1983 and 1983-1985, and had transmitted to the Government its congratulations on the way in which Senegal was respecting and promoting human rights and implementing the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.¹ Senegal attached great importance to the declaration provided for in article 14 of the Convention and to the need to publicize as widely as possible the work of CERD.

43. Mr. ENKHSIAKHAN (Observer for Mongolia) said that any form of racism diminished human dignity and posed a direct threat to international

peace and security. The question of racism and racial discrimination should therefore be a focal point of discussion in the international community, especially during the current year, the International Year of Peace.

44. The goals of the programmes of action for the first Decade and for the Second Decade were to help activate efforts by Governments at all levels to eradicate racism and strengthen solidarity between the international community and the victims of racism. Thanks to the persistent efforts of many States, the international community had achieved some successes. However, the first Decade had not achieved its basic objective, in that there were still millions of victims of racism and racial discrimination.

45. The dangerous form of racism practised by the Pretoria régime could not be covered up by reforms. The changes which had recently been made were only cosmetic ones. Many delegations had noted that *apartheid* thrived because it was supported by the Western States and transnational corporations, which ignored United Nations resolutions and decisions and co-operated with the régime.

46. The international community was alarmed by constant violations of the military embargo imposed on South Africa, which had facilitated its continued aggression against neighbouring countries. The most threatening consequence of military collaboration with the régime was an increase in South Africa's nuclear potential. All States must refrain from co-operating with the régime, and the Security Council should introduce mandatory and comprehensive sanctions against it. His delegation advocated strict implementation of United Nations resolutions and decisions, and supported the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.

47. In the Middle East, the Palestinians were being subjected to a State policy of racial discrimination and mass violation of their human rights. Moreover, millions of persons, especially racial minorities, were being subjected to racial discrimination in capitalist countries. The international community must therefore continue to focus its attention on the question of racism.

48. His delegation attached great importance to the total eradication of all forms of racial discrimination and supported all initiatives of States to eliminate the evils of *apartheid* and racism. Mongolia strictly fulfilled the provisions of article 9 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination¹ by periodically submitting reports on its implementation of that instrument. His delegation appealed to all States which had not yet done so to ratify both that Convention and the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of *Apartheid*.⁸

AGENDA ITEM 4

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (A/41/45)

49. Mr. SAFRONCHUK (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the World Conference held at Nairobi in the framework of the United Nations Decade for Women had convincingly demonstrated that women throughout the world had both the desire

and the determination to participate, on a broader and truly equal basis, in all spheres of the life of their countries, as well as to work for equal rights, peace and social progress.¹¹ The Conference had noted, however, that the results of the Decade had fallen far short of what had been planned at the Conferences held at Mexico City¹² and at Copenhagen.¹³

50. Women and children were the ones who suffered most as a result of the policies of imperialist plunder and expansion, colonialism and neo-colonialism, racism, *apartheid* and foreign occupation. For example, women living in the occupied Arab territories not only were suffering at the sight of the blood of their fathers, husbands and children, but were themselves victims of persecution, torture, imprisonment and murder. In some Western developed countries, millions of women still suffered from unemployment, a decline in real incomes, severe forms of exploitation and even starvation, poverty and homelessness.

51. The Nairobi Conference had demanded an immediate end to discrimination against women, an end to the nuclear-arms race, and a free and peaceful future for all humanity. All nations, including the permanent members of the Security Council, should recognize and fulfil their obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.¹⁴

¹¹ See *Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10).

¹² See *Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year, Mexico City, 19 June-2 July 1975* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.1).

¹³ See *Report of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Copenhagen, 14-30 July 1980* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.IV.3 and corrigendum).

¹⁴ General Assembly resolution 34/180, annex.

52. In socialist societies, equality between men and women was guaranteed by law and by the whole system. An important indicator of women's equal position in society was the exercise of their right to work; women made up one half of the total workforce. Over 500,000 Soviet women were managers of industrial enterprises and executive officers of agencies, and over half of all working women performed intellectual work. A State system of social security was in place, and every year saw an increase in funds allocated for allowances to women in connection with temporary disability, pregnancy and post-natal care. The experience of the Soviet Union had demonstrated that true equality for women was linked to their involvement in State and public activities. It was noteworthy that women made up almost one third of the highest organ of State authority—the Supreme Soviet. Indeed, there were more women deputies in the Soviet Parliament than in all the Parliaments of the leading Western countries. Moreover, at the recent Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, special attention had been paid to the introduction of additional measures to create working and living conditions for women which would promote the active participation of working mothers in professional and social activities.

53. The final document of the Nairobi Conference, along with other important international documents in the field of women's rights, should serve as a basis for further steps towards improving the status of women at the national, regional and international levels and guaranteeing equal rights. It was important to strengthen international co-operation and United Nations efforts in that area.

The meeting rose at 12.55 p.m.

8th meeting

Thursday, 1 May 1986, at 3.15 p.m.

President: Mr. Manuel DOS SANTOS (Mozambique)

E/1986/SR.8

AGENDA ITEM 1

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (*continued*)

LETTER DATED 22 APRIL 1986 FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION ON TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS AT ITS TWELFTH SESSION ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (*CONCLUDED*)* (E/1986/68)

1. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to adopt the following draft decision:

"The Economic and Social Council welcomes the acceptance by the Commission on Transnational Corporations of the principle of biennialization for the calendar of meetings and decides to refer the matter to the General Assembly at its resumed fortieth session for a decision."

* Resumed from the 6th meeting.

2. Mr. SAFRONCHUK (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the decision should refer to the pertinent resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council in order to reflect more accurately the text of the letter from the Chairman of the Commission on Transnational Corporations.

3. Mrs. KNEŽEVIĆ (Yugoslavia) said that, in her view, the formula suggested by the President might be interpreted to mean that the Commission on Transnational Corporations had already adopted the principle of biennial meetings. It might therefore prejudice the resolution which the General Assembly was to adopt. Consequently, she would prefer a wording more faithful to the text of document E/1986/68.

4. After discussion, the PRESIDENT invited the Council to adopt the following draft decision:

"The Economic and Social Council takes note of the letter from the Chairman at its twelfth session

of the Commission on Transnational Corporations (E/1986/68) and decides to refer the matter to the General Assembly at its resumed fortieth session for decision."

The draft decision was adopted (decision 1986/117).

ACTIVITIES OF TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA AND NAMIBIA AND FOLLOW-UP TO THE REPORT OF THE PANEL OF EMINENT PERSONS ESTABLISHED TO CONDUCT THE PUBLIC HEARINGS ON THE ACTIVITIES OF TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA AND NAMIBIA** (E/1986/L.14)

5. Mrs. KNEŽEVIĆ (Yugoslavia), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77, said that the international community must act more decisively and in a concerted manner to speed up peaceful change in southern Africa. The report of the Panel of Eminent Persons established to conduct the public hearings on the activities of transnational corporations in South Africa and Namibia (E/C.10/1986/9) clearly demonstrated that the black majority of the population was determined to overthrow the *apartheid* system. The report also highlighted the crucial role of transnational corporations in the economy of South Africa and the manner in which they were helping to perpetuate the policy of *apartheid* and the illegal occupation of Namibia. The recommendations of the Panel of Eminent Persons regarding the activities of transnational corporations in South Africa and Namibia should be implemented in order to exercise pressure on the South African authorities and accelerate the process of change. The Group of 77 supported those recommendations and agreed with the Panel of Eminent Persons that their implementation was possible only through a concerted programme of international action and the systematic co-operation of Governments, transnational corporations, United Nations organizations, banks, financial institutions and other concerned bodies.

6. The Secretary-General should adopt all the measures necessary to implement the proposals of the Panel of Eminent Persons and should submit annual reports to the Economic and Social Council, the General Assembly and the Security Council on the progress achieved until the abolition of *apartheid* and the termination of the illegal occupation of Namibia by South Africa.

7. She welcomed the measures taken by certain home countries of transnational corporations to place restrictions on further investments in South Africa and on bank loans to the racist régime. However, such measures had not been adequate and effective, thus sustaining and reinforcing the *apartheid* system. There were still more than 1,000 transnational corporations that were collaborating with South Africa. The prolongation of such collaboration should be brought to an end without further delay.

8. The Group of 77 believed that the position taken by the business community in the course of the public hearings, to the effect that *apartheid* was morally indefensible, economically counterproductive and irreconcilable with the principles of free enterprise, should be followed by practical action.

9. The draft resolution entitled "Activities of transnational corporations in South Africa and follow-up to the report of the Panel of Eminent Persons established to conduct the public hearings on the activities of transnational corporations in South Africa and Namibia" (E/1986/L.14) should serve as an input for the World Conference on Sanctions against Racist South Africa, to be held in June in Paris. Unfortunately, the Commission on Transnational Corporations had not been able to adopt that resolution by consensus in spite of the political declarations made by member countries against the system of *apartheid* and the illegal occupation of Namibia.

AGENDA ITEM 2

Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (*continued*) (E/1986/14 and Add.1, E/1986/15, E/1986/53)

10. Mr. THORSTEINSSON (Iceland), speaking on behalf of the five Nordic countries, said that racial discrimination had always existed throughout history but for the first time significant inroads had been made against that phenomenon, including the implementation of United Nations instruments on human rights.

11. South Africa was the only country which did not recognize the principle of racial equality and had thus unleashed a wave of violence against innocent victims. The Nordic countries held the view that the policy of *apartheid* was a threat to international peace and security and they had adopted both international and unilateral action against South Africa. The most recent was the Nordic Programme of Action adopted at Oslo in October 1985. Under that Programme, new investments by the Nordic countries in South Africa were prohibited; measures had been introduced to reduce or eliminate trade with South Africa; the application of visa regulations had been strengthened; it had been decided to increase humanitarian aid to refugees and liberation movements and also to the victims and opponents of *apartheid*; and it had been decided to increase development assistance to the front-line States and to the other developing countries of southern Africa, to which Nordic development assistance amounted to 35 per cent of those countries' total bilateral assistance.

12. The extreme case of South Africa should not divert the international community's attention from the discrimination practised in other countries against ethnic and minority groups, indigenous peoples and migrant workers. Many countries represented in the Council guaranteed racial equality in accordance with the letter of the law, thus escaping criticism, but the law was far from being implemented in practice. Fortunately, that situation was changing as a result of the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination¹—an essential instrument, even though it might not be perfect; the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, entrusted with monitoring the implementation of the Convention, should therefore not be impeded in its work.

13. If States parties wished to demonstrate their commitment to racial equality, they should fulfil

**See 5th meeting, paras. 3 and 4.

their financial obligations, which over half of them had failed to honour. The problem in question would have to be dealt with so that the Committee could meet in the summer. At the same time, the Committee should shoulder its responsibilities and agree on more effective working methods, since the delays in consideration of the reports submitted by Governments amounted to two years or more. The backlog tended to discourage some States parties and perhaps partly explained their failure to meet their reporting obligations. One way of solving the problem would be to increase the reporting interval from two to four years; naturally, it was for States parties to adopt a decision in that respect.

14. The Nordic countries wished to express their support for the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination² and for the activities planned for the period 1985-1989 contained in the report of the Secretary-General³ placing emphasis on education, training and public information, as well as to offer their active and sincere co-operation in that connection.

15. Miss AILOUAZE (Observer for Algeria) said that an unconditional commitment was required from the international community in order to eliminate the most serious human-rights violations—racism and racial discrimination—which were an affront to human dignity and of which millions of people were the victims. The achievements of the first Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination must be supported and strengthened, and the Programme of Action for the Second Decade must be implemented.

16. Migrant workers had become the target of taunts and racist acts of aggression owing to the fact that they were aliens and because of the economic crisis, which served as a pretext for such attacks and to stir up xenophobia. Algeria strongly condemned such practices and appealed to the entire international community to guarantee the fundamental rights, dignity and security of migrant workers.

17. However, the most brutal manifestations of racism continued to be *apartheid* and *zionism*. South Africa was sowing terror all around it, causing desolation and sorrow and endeavouring to impose the racist régime's will on the whole of southern Africa through unjustified acts of aggression, the use of mercenaries, an economic blockade and threats. Recent dramatic events in Africa had shown that the only way to restore peace and stability on that continent was through the total elimination of the *apartheid* system. The international community must reject all delaying tactics, such as the recent abolition of the "pass laws", which had been replaced by repressive measures; it must also reject manoeuvres the sole purpose of which was to mitigate international pressure and conceal from the public at large the true nature of the odious system in question. However, it was impossible to conceal the scale of popular resistance and the irreversibility of the process of the system's disintegration. The international community must therefore help the peoples of South Africa and Namibia—through the African National Congress of South Africa (ANC) and the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), which were their respective authentic representatives—to fulfil their legitimate aspirations and secure the imposition of mandatory, comprehensive sanctions against South Africa under Chapter VII of the Charter.

18. The Palestinian people were the victims of repression by *zionism* on their own national territory. *Zionism* was to the Middle East what *apartheid* was to southern Africa, in other words, a foreign element that caused tension, committed human-rights violations and constituted a threat to international peace and stability. The passivity and conspiratorial silence of some countries in the face of the atrocities committed against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples and the Arab population of the occupied territories neither gave *Zionist* practices any credibility nor diminished the responsibility of those who were the cause of the dramatic events taking place in the Middle East.

19. The international community must step up its efforts to put an end to the scourge of *apartheid*, racism and *zionism*. The Programme of Action for the Second Decade provided an appropriate framework for concerted action to achieve that goal. Unfortunately, the report of the Secretary-General of 24 March 1986 on the implementation of the Programme of Action (E/1986/15) revealed a tendency towards inertia and irresponsible indifference. It was difficult to understand why the activities decided upon by the General Assembly for 1986, in the context of the activities planned for the period 1985-1989, had not been carried out. Although at the time of that decision her delegation had regarded them as both inadequate and inopportune, above all because of the priority that should be accorded to the intensification of the struggle against *apartheid*, it was nevertheless surprised that they could not be carried out.

20. Although the Decade had been based on a consensus designed to bring about concerted action with a view to eliminating racism, racial discrimination and *apartheid*, with the passage of time its basic features had gradually become blurred, and currently—at a time when the number of the innocent victims of *apartheid* was growing day by day, when South Africa's acts of aggression were being unleashed against the whole of southern Africa and when the illegal occupation of Namibia was continuing—United Nations activities to combat racism and racial discrimination were, for the sake of maintaining a consensus, being focused on areas that had been and continued to be peripheral. The international community must give thought to what future a consensus would lead to for the Decade and what the implications of the very concept of consensus would be for the fulfilment of the legitimate aspirations of the oppressed peoples of South Africa, Namibia and Palestine.

21. Mr. AKYOL (Turkey) said that one of the chief goals of the United Nations was international co-operation to promote the observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms. The human rights laid down in the Charter called for the concept of non-discrimination and were directly linked to the concepts of international peace, security and justice. In keeping with the fundamental principles upon which its foreign policy was based, Turkey strongly opposed racism and racial discrimination and its Government supported the goals of the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination. Unfortunately, there was still a great discrepancy between those goals and the situation of millions of people who continued to be the victims of various manifestations of racism and racial discrimination.

22. In recent months, world public opinion had been more concerned than ever with events in southern Africa and the international community had repeatedly appealed to South Africa, both in the Council and in other forums, to make a radical change in its policies. However, despite a number of measures adopted recently by the Government of South Africa, the situation basically had not changed.

23. *Apartheid* was an affront to the conscience and the values of mankind, and a shameful practice that openly violated the fundamental principles laid down in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. There had recently been a qualitative change in the nature of the opposition and the legitimate struggle of the majority of the South African people against *apartheid*, and South Africa's leaders must therefore realize that the *apartheid* system was the fundamental cause of the events taking place in that country and that its very characteristics generated violence. Before it was too late, South Africa must make radical changes in order to prevent the deterioration of a situation that was unquestionably a serious threat to peace and security.

24. The massive and brutal oppression of the Turkish minority by the Government of Bulgaria was one of the most extreme cases of racial discrimination currently known. Consequently, his delegation challenged the statements of the Government of Bulgaria reflected in the report of the Secretary-General of 18 February 1986 submitted in accordance with paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 39/16 (E/1986/14, para. 6), according to which the policy and legislation of Bulgaria and its socialist structure created the necessary conditions for effective implementation of the principle of the complete equality of all citizens and prohibited and punished any form of propaganda for discrimination, and any form of discrimination itself, including racial discrimination.

25. There were approximately 1.5 million Muslim Turks living in Bulgaria, a minority which had for years been subjected to a progressive and radical assimilation that had intensified during 1985. The situation of that minority was of grave concern to his Government. Bulgaria had responded with false historical arguments to the international community's criticisms of its oppressive policy and forced assimilation measures, the main argument being that the Turks living in the country were of the same ethnic origin as the Bulgarian population. To attribute to an ethnic group a racial origin that was not its own, to the detriment of its national, cultural and religious identity, could only be qualified as racism. The Turkish minority living in Bulgaria spoke Turkish, was proud of its cultural heritage and professed the Islamic faith. That reality could not be changed by subterfuge or demagogy.

26. Bulgaria had sought to conceal its policy towards the Turkish minority, but that attempt had recently suffered a reversal in the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. A comparison of the successive reports submitted by the Government of Bulgaria to that Committee revealed that, while earlier reports had mentioned the Turkish minority, more recent reports did not. The new position taken by the Government of Bulgaria was indefensible, however, in view of the information it had itself submitted. The members of the Committee had rejected all the arguments presented by Bulgaria in defence of its position. That Government was

practising a racist and oppressive policy that was contrary to the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, the international human-rights instruments and bilateral treaties. Bulgaria should not be surprised at Turkey's efforts to make that grave transgression known in competent international forums and to world public opinion, and had no reason to claim that Turkey was engaged in an anti-Bulgarian campaign. Turkey was concerned about the human tragedy that was taking place in Bulgaria and, like all countries which respected human rights, it could not and should not remain indifferent to that situation.

27. Mr. LIANG Yufan (China) said that, since proclaiming the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination in 1973, the international community had set itself the goal of eliminating those practices. To that end, it had formulated a series of specific plans and measures in the context of that Decade and of the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination. His delegation had noted with great interest the information contained in the reports of the Secretary-General on the action and measures taken in that sphere by some countries and by United Nations bodies, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations. It had also taken note of the holding of international symposia and seminars that represented useful contributions to the achievements of the objectives of the Second Decade.

28. The international community's primary objective must be to eliminate the barbaric system of *apartheid* practised by the racist régime of South Africa. That was the only country to have institutionalized racial discrimination with a whole set of racist laws. Furthermore, the South African racist authorities had for years been engaged in the bloody repression of the black people who were demanding equal treatment. The massacres perpetrated by the racist régime had revealed its sinister nature. Its criminal acts had aroused tremendous indignation throughout the world. The struggle of the South African people against racial discrimination and *apartheid* was gaining increasing support, the force of which had become irresistible.

29. Faced with external pressure and internal resistance, the South African authorities had initiated so-called "reforms" in order to mislead international public opinion, entrench the *apartheid* system and step up repression against the black people. Since the South African Government had adopted the so-called "new Constitution" in September 1984, the situation had deteriorated further. The assertion that *apartheid* could be reformed was nothing but a manoeuvre designed to perpetuate the racist régime in South Africa.

30. The South African authorities had not only stepped up repression and persecution at home but had also carried out acts of aggression, interference, harassment and sabotage abroad. They had flouted Security Council resolution 435 (1978) by continuing their illegal occupation of Namibia and had mounted repeated armed provocations against neighbouring States. The racist régime was the root cause of the turbulent situation in southern Africa and its conduct seriously threatened international peace and security. In addition to strongly denouncing the South African authorities, the international community should take concrete steps to impose comprehensive and manda-

tory sanctions against the racist régime in order to force it to end its criminal conduct.

31. His Government firmly supported the South African people and was convinced that, with the support of all the countries and peoples which upheld peace and justice, they would be victorious in their struggle for equality and freedom.

32. Mr. KAWASHIMA (Japan) said that equality and freedom were fundamental principles of the United Nations. Nevertheless, prejudice and discrimination, particularly racial discrimination, one of the most abhorrent manifestations of which was the *apartheid* policy in South Africa, still persisted in many countries.

33. Japan had made clear repeatedly its opposition to all forms of racism and racial discrimination and believed that the international community must intensify its efforts to induce the Government of South Africa to abandon the *apartheid* system. That should be done by exerting maximum pressure on the Government through peaceful means, including the encouragement of progressive movements within South Africa.

34. His Government had participated in international efforts to convince South Africa that the *apartheid* policy was unacceptable and it steadfastly respected the various resolutions adopted on *apartheid*. In fact, the measures taken by Japan to comply with those resolutions were among the strictest taken by industrialized democracies.

35. The Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination² could play an essential role in eliminating *apartheid*, through its long-range educational programmes and public information campaigns aimed at achieving international understanding of and respect for fundamental freedoms and human rights. His Government had decided to make a financial contribution to the Trust Fund for the Decade, in order to assist in the implementation of useful and effective programmes.

36. Mrs. NDUKU BOOTO (Zaire) said that it was deplorable to observe that there were still peoples without freedom and nations without sovereignty, because of the colour of their inhabitants' skin. South Africa and Namibia were a cause for concern to the international community, for the Pretoria régime was still seeking to perpetuate its domination over the black population through the *apartheid* system. The white minority Government of South Africa was synonymous with oppression and denial of basic human rights. The struggle against *apartheid* must be accelerated and the system eliminated.

37. The recent "constitutional reform" of the Pretoria régime was only a manoeuvre to mollify world opinion and had not been accepted by the oppressed population, which had organized to defend its rights. Zaire believed that the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination¹ and the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of *Apartheid*⁶ were very important instruments for putting an end to the grave situation existing in southern Africa.

38. The Programme of Action for the Second Decade² was another valuable mechanism for achieving the goals of the Decade, and Zaire wished to reiterate its support for those goals. It also hoped that, at the World Conference on Sanctions against Racist South Africa, to be held in Paris in June 1986,

economic sanctions would be imposed against that country, as a way of giving support to the liberation struggle of South Africa's black population. The international community must support that heroic struggle against the *apartheid* system and racial discrimination. All human beings had been born equal, and there was no scientific, moral or ethnological evidence against that principle.

39. Despite efforts made to implement General Assembly resolution 39/16 and despite action by the relevant bodies of the United Nations and by non-governmental organizations, it was deplorable to realize that the implementation of the Programme of Action had not achieved the results anticipated and that it did not have the enthusiastic support it should have. Zaire hoped that efforts would be made to remedy that situation so that the Council could complete its work of assessing the action taken and the goals of the Decade could be realized.

40. Mr. SHARFI (Observer for the Sudan) said that racial discrimination was the most horrible crime against humanity, the perpetuation of which seriously jeopardized international peace and security. The conflict in southern Africa had reached very dangerous proportions; South Africa's strategy of institutionalizing racial discrimination in order to perpetuate its *apartheid* system was leading to an increasingly grave violation of the basic rights of the majority of the population. It was not possible to accept the recent "constitutional reforms" of that system, which were merely manoeuvres to gain time and make it possible to stifle the liberation movements. The rising tension in South Africa compelled the United Nations to examine the situation seriously. If it was hoped to achieve the goals of the Decade, effective measures were needed to eliminate the *apartheid* system through the application of comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against South Africa and its total isolation, because, although it was a certainty that the *apartheid* system would be eliminated, the process had to be accelerated. The situation in South Africa and Namibia would not improve unless a majority régime was established, based on equality and freedom for the whole population. In addition, it was important for the international community to eliminate all racist ideologies, among them Zionism. The Zionist State was a threat to peace in the Middle East because it was depriving the Palestinians of their basic rights and committing constant acts of aggression against the neighbouring peoples. The collaboration between Pretoria and Tel Aviv, aimed at the perpetuation of those régimes, showed the danger posed by such ideologies. The Sudan supported the struggle against racism and was a party to all the conventions against racism and racial discrimination. At the international level, it supported the struggle of the liberation movements of the Palestinians and South Africans, which aimed to put an end to the horrible crimes perpetrated by the oppressive régimes in their countries.

41. Mr. POLICHTCHOUK (Observer for the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic) said that the struggle against racism was very significant. The recent Twenty-seventh Congress of the Communist Party of the USSR had emphasized that the elimination of genocide, *apartheid*, racism and all kinds of discrimination were primordial humanitarian tasks and that the international community must direct its efforts towards that goal. The Ukrainian SSR was taking part in activities under the Programme of

Action, as indicated in the Secretary-General's report of 18 February 1986 (E/1986/14), and it had been one of the first countries to accede to and ratify the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination¹ and the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of *Apartheid*.⁸ Furthermore, it was carrying out a campaign to mobilize public opinion against those evils, it had designated 21 March as the Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, and it was supporting the national liberation movement of South Africa.

42. Despite the successes achieved, the victory against racism was still remote. *Apartheid* and racism still existed as sources of international tension and conflict. The most repugnant form of racism was the *apartheid* system imposed by the Pretoria régime in South Africa and in the occupied Territory of Namibia, and, like South Africa's aggression against the neighbouring peoples, it represented a threat to international peace and security. The responsibility was shared by the Western countries, especially the United States, which were giving economic, political and military support to the régime, as were many transnational corporations operating in South Africa. Consequently, the Ukrainian SSR fully shared the views of the Group of Three of the Commission on Human Rights, set forth in its report (E/CN.4/1986/30), regarding the applicability of article III of the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of *Apartheid*⁸ to the activities of the transnational corporations operating in South Africa. Racism and racial discrimination proliferated wherever imperialism had hegemony and wherever vestiges of colonialism remained.

43. The Ukrainian SSR also expressed its grave concern over the occupation of Arab territories and the repression of the Arab population by Israel, as well as over the exploitation of migrant workers, minorities and indigenous population groups in the industrialized Western countries and the discrimination to which those oppressed groups were subjected.

44. In accordance with the principles recently reiterated in General Assembly resolution 40/148 and the relevant resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights, the Ukrainian SSR called once more for punishing and halting the spread of racist ideologies and for outlawing organizations based on such concepts, including neo-Nazi and neo-Fascist groups, which had recently intensified their activities. The Ukrainian SSR would continue to take part in activities under the Programme of Action for the Second Decade² in order to achieve the elimination of racism and racial discrimination.

45. Mr. CHIKETA (Zimbabwe) said that, when the Programme of Action for the Second Decade had been adopted, consensus had been restored after an acrimonious debate in which there had been threats of a walk-out if a reference to Zionism was included in the final document. The resistance of some delegations to the imposition of comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against South Africa had become apparent, as had the determination of other delegations to succeed, since failure would have meant the triumph of a vile and condemnable doctrine of racial superiority. Regrettably, the spirit of camaraderie, hope and enthusiasm, and the impetus gained on that occasion, were rapidly being dissipated.

46. It seemed that subsequent events would render the Second Conference an event of "much ado about nothing". General Assembly resolution 40/22 had demonstrated the determination totally and unconditionally to eradicate racism in all its forms. Nevertheless, document E/1986/15 referred only to *apartheid*; although that was one of the most brutal and diabolical forms of racism and therefore merited priority attention, it should not be forgotten that the selective implementation of the Programme of Action could undermine it and the approach agreed upon by consensus for combating racism.

47. There were those who believed that the consensus was only in the interest of the victims of racism, who should, therefore, do their utmost to maintain it. That, however, was an error: both those who practised racial discrimination and its victims were destined to perish or survive together. In the past, victims had been determined to rid themselves of the humiliation to which they had been subjected. Zimbabwe had known the spectre of racial discrimination and an armed struggle had been undertaken in order to put an end to the unjust institutionalized repression of a system which had sought to perpetuate its rule by all possible means. The same thing was now occurring in South Africa, in spite of the highly praised "constitutional reform" measures, while the world hardly expressed any opinion and remained silent because the victims were black. Only the Western countries which provided assistance to the racist Pretoria régime through their veto in the Security Council thought that the changes introduced in South Africa were meaningful; in that way, the Pretoria authorities and the current Government of the United States had shown their true character: those two countries had similar régimes.

48. Everyone knew why the South African régime recruited, trained and financed murderers and infiltrated them into the States of the region. The political stability and racial harmony in Zimbabwe were the envy of the racists, who were determined to destabilize the country in order to demonstrate that blacks were incapable of running a country.

49. It was clear that the racist forces in certain Western countries had joined the destabilization campaigns for racial reasons and, for example, were supplying missiles to UNITA (União Nacional para a Independência Total de Angola) in Angola. Furthermore, the independence plan for Namibia was jeopardized by the introduction of extraneous questions, over which the Namibian people had no control. Those questions had been emphasized in order to conceal the real problem, which was the failure to implement United Nations resolutions on Namibia.

50. Racist practices were not limited to southern Africa. Racism was also taking its toll in the Middle East. Until Palestine was restored to those to whom it rightfully belonged, namely, the Palestinians, that people would continue the struggle for its fundamental rights. Nevertheless, the information the Council had before it (E/1986/14 and Add.1, E/1986/15) said nothing about the racial problems in the Middle East. That information and the statement by the Assistant Secretary-General should have been more in conformity with the Programme of Action and General Assembly resolution 40/22, and he hoped that in the future the reports would provide more information on assistance directly related to the Programme of Action. He also hoped that such assistance would be provided to the three national liberation movements

of southern Africa referred to in paragraph 4 of document E/1986/15 and not only to the two movements mentioned in paragraph 5 (a) and (e) of that document.

51. In addition, more United Nations bodies should participate in the Programme of Action. The Centre for Human Rights, for example, did not seem to be carrying out any activities. If those bodies were encountering problems in implementing the Programme of Action, those problems should be brought to the attention of the Council so that it could consider them and seek solutions. He also hoped that the next report, preferably the one to be submitted at the forty-first session of the General Assembly, would refer to the fulfilment of the request in paragraph 17 (c) of General Assembly resolution 40/22.

52. His delegation appealed to countries to contribute generously to the Trust Fund, since projects and programmes could not be implemented without adequate resources.

53. A greater effort should be made to inform public opinion of the dangers of the pseudo-scientific doctrine of racial superiority. The information media were important in that regard, and, although his Government respected the freedom of the press, it did not feel that that freedom would be compromised by supporting that noble cause. More discussions and seminars should be held on that subject with the information media. Of course, the press should be commended for publicizing the atrocities committed by the racist régime of South Africa. Also, an urgent appeal should be made to UNESCO to expedite its work on the production of educational materials free from racial connotations.

54. Lastly, he pointed out that his country was prepared to struggle against the scourge of racial discrimination with or without the support of other States. It would not hesitate, if necessary, to take up arms. Nevertheless, it hoped that that would not happen and that all countries would express their common determination, as stated in the Charter of the United Nations, "to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, which twice . . . has brought untold sorrow to mankind".

55. Miss EMARA (Egypt) said that the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination² had been adopted unanimously and that other resolutions dealing with that subject had been adopted without a vote. The consensus reflected in those resolutions had given rise to the hope that the Programme of Action for the Second Decade would be successfully implemented. Nevertheless, consideration of the report of the Secretary-General of 24 March 1986 (E/1986/15) on activities undertaken by United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to achieve the objectives of the Decade led one to the conclusion that in recent years those activities had been rather modest and were not in accordance with the objectives.

56. With regard to the reports submitted by Governments on the implementation of the Programme of Action (see E/1986/14 and Add.1), her delegation commended the States which had provided that information and hoped that those which had not yet done so would furnish the relevant data as soon as possible.

57. Her delegation felt that, although the Programme of Action had been adopted by consensus,

the political will to implement it had been lacking. For that reason, she called upon States, the United Nations and non-governmental organizations to redouble their efforts to eliminate racial discrimination and *apartheid*.

58. The racist régime of South Africa was defying the entire international community. The oppressed people of South Africa had carried out their duty to struggle against *apartheid*, paying with the blood of thousands of their sons. It was time for all States to demonstrate their political will and adopt mandatory sanctions against the Pretoria régime in order to force it to implement United Nations resolutions on Namibia and South Africa. Egypt would spare no effort to achieve the objective of eliminating racism and racial discrimination.

59. Mrs. BELLORINI de PARRALES (Observer for Nicaragua) said that the first Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination had made international public opinion aware of the problem and its harmful effects and that the Second Decade should succeed in eliminating racial discrimination, racism and *apartheid* through the support of the international community for the just struggle of the South African people.

60. The situation in South Africa had reached a turning point, at both the domestic and the international levels: the oppressed people had embraced the cause of liberation with unprecedented determination, defying the military might of the racists and making the country ungovernable under the current system. There were two alternatives: immediate dismantling of the *apartheid* system or a civil war of unforeseeable dimensions. The international community must decide whether to bow to the defiance of South Africa or to act resolutely in favour of freedom and justice. Nicaragua noted with appreciation the international consensus in favour of isolating the racist régime, but believed that the situation required more than token gestures and that the Security Council must adopt comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against South Africa, since the régime's continued existence was due to the economic, military and nuclear collaboration of certain countries.

61. The situation in the occupied Arab territories was similar to that of South Africa. In order to achieve its goals, the Zionist entity had expelled an entire people from its country and had pursued a policy of annihilation and genocide, particularly against the civilian population.

62. One might ask how it was possible for South Africa to continue its racist policy and for Israel to continue its expansionist policy, when the international community had condemned both régimes. The chief responsibility for that lay with the United States. If its leaders had participated in the international community's struggle against State racism, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, racism would long since have disappeared. But the United States was pursuing a policy of "constructive engagement" with the South African régime and encouraging Zionist expansionism.

63. The time had come for the United Nations to take firm and decisive action to implement the relevant mandates and resolutions and thus put an end to an evil which brought affliction and shame on all mankind.

64. Mr. RADA (Observer for Czechoslovakia) said that his country accorded priority to the struggle

against colonialism and against all forms of racism, which was the most flagrant violation of human rights. So long as racism was not eradicated it would be impossible to ensure the freedom of nations, to strengthen international peace and security, to develop mutual co-operation among nations and to attain social progress.

65. The struggle against racism and racial discrimination was one of the international community's most important tasks. Racism threatened peace and stability in the world, as was illustrated by the policies of the Governments of South Africa and Israel. *Apartheid*, a crime against humanity and the most hideous form of racism, was a product of a system based on exploitation, and that was why it had the support of States which valued economic profit more than the human rights to which they so frequently referred. Although Western countries outwardly tried to prove that they were fighting *apartheid*, they were in fact providing the South African régime with unlimited assistance.

66. Zionism also disregarded the recognized principles of international law and was based directly on hatred of Arab nations and the denial of the right of the people of Palestine to self-determination and to establish their own State.

67. In Western Europe, neo-Fascist and revanchist forces had recently resurfaced. The aim of the revanchist forces was to change the post-war arrangement of European borders. The activity of neo-Fascist groups was directed against foreign workers who had spent many years in precarious conditions, performing the lowest-rated, unskilled jobs, and whose children had been made to feel the worst forms of discrimination.

68. The United States and some other States which had arrogated to themselves a totally unjustified monopoly on interpreting, monitoring and evaluating the state of human rights and freedoms in the world did not consider it necessary to consider the fate of the black population and national minorities of their own territories. The substantially lower standard of living of those groups, their limited access to education and public office, led one to conclude that democracy, as interpreted in those States, was a qualified democracy in which skin colour played a significant role. There was no need to elaborate on the fate of the original population of the United States—the "redskins"—who were slowly dying out on their "reservations".

69. The application of global sanctions provided for under the Charter of the United Nations would result in the total isolation of racist régimes and would force them to abandon the practices which they had adopted as methods of government. The Socialist Republic of Czechoslovakia, together with other socialist and progressive developing countries, had more than once demanded that such measures should be applied, but other countries had blocked such attempts. Currently, the policy of imperialism endangered the existence of the human race: all people, regardless of their colour or nationality, could perish immediately or gradually as a result of a war. In that context, the struggle against racism was a struggle for peace, for attaining concrete disarmament measures and solving conflict situations. Czechoslovakia would therefore continue to accord priority to the full and speedy implementation of the Programme of

Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.²

70. Mr. BOKHARI (Pakistan) said that the Secretary-General's reports on the subject showed that Member States, United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, as well as other international and regional organizations and non-governmental organizations, were making progress towards the achievement of the general objectives of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.² The proclamation in 1983 of the Second Decade had demonstrated the firm resolve of the international community to eliminate all forms of racism, racial discrimination and *apartheid* and had provided the most suitable vehicle for the realization of those objectives.

71. Year after year, South Africa's policies of *apartheid* continued to appear on the agenda of the General Assembly. That policy represented a challenge to the world community, and the international struggle against racism and racial discrimination must therefore be intensified. The persistent defiance of the Pretoria régime and other vested interests to the calls of the international community over the last three decades had seriously eroded the credibility of the United Nations. United Nations organs should therefore review the implementation of their resolutions on *apartheid*, identify the causes of non-implementation and consider ways of securing universal respect for their decisions. The international community should also take concerted action to reassert the effectiveness of the Organization.

72. Pakistan had traditionally lent its moral and material support to peoples struggling against oppression, foreign domination or discrimination. In particular, its steadfast support for the struggle of the South African people against *apartheid* emanated from the precepts of its faith, which upheld the equality, freedom and dignity of all peoples. Pakistan had been one of the first countries to bring the question of racism and racial discrimination before the United Nations and to sign and ratify the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.¹

73. The Prime Minister of Pakistan, Mr. Moham-mad Khan Junejo, had recently said that his Government condemned the reprehensible policies and practices of the racist régime of Pretoria and that no amount of tyranny or oppression could shake the will of the South African people for freedom.

74. The system of *apartheid* could not be reformed, it must be totally destroyed. That task could be accomplished only through the collective efforts of the international community. To that end, the imposition of comprehensive and mandatory sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations would be imperative. In the mean time, the implementation of the mandatory arms embargo against South Africa, imposed under Security Council resolution 418 (1977), should be strictly enforced.

75. South Africa's suspension of the pass laws showed that the international community's efforts to eliminate *apartheid* were having an effect. That made it all the more imperative to redouble those efforts, particularly in the light of the convening of the World Conference on Sanctions against Racist South Africa, to be held in June 1986, which represented a timely response to the demands of the international community to eliminate the odious system of *apartheid*.

76. Mr. MAHONEY (Observer for Gambia) said that his country attached great importance to the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and to the Programme of Action adopted by the General Assembly for the Decade.² The current financial crisis imposed constraints on the scope of the activities envisaged to implement the Programme, but it should not entail their complete elimination. Nevertheless, that was the impression created by document E/1986/15, which was a model of conciseness but at the same time failed to mention various activities.

77. Section I of that document, entitled "Summary of activities undertaken or contemplated by United Nations bodies to achieve the objectives of the Second Decade", indicated only that the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, at its 1258th meeting, had decided to take into account the relevant provisions on the implementation of the Programme of Action. He wondered whether that could be considered an activity and whether it was the only activity undertaken by United Nations bodies in that area. He also wished to know what activities had been carried out by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and why there was no mention of the fact that, in 1985, the Commission on Human Rights had heard direct testimony from victims of *apartheid*, something which represented a new activity for that body. He also requested more information in that regard.

78. Section II of the document, entitled "Summary of activities undertaken or contemplated by the specialized agencies to achieve the objectives of the Second Decade", also failed to provide complete information. It gave the impression that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) was the only organization engaged in such activities. He wished to know why activities being carried out by the World Health Organization (WHO) were not included in section II. Furthermore, paragraph 4 referred to the assistance being provided to the three national liberation movements, while paragraph 5 only described the assistance to two of them. Finally, paragraph 5 (d) of the English version contained an error: the Solomon Mahlangu Freedom College appeared as the "Solomon Mahlangu Freedom Cottage".

79. Section III, entitled "Summary of activities undertaken or contemplated by non-governmental organizations to achieve the objectives of the Second Decade", contained certain elements which were not really activities; for example, paragraph 10 referred to the publication *The Muslim World* of the World Muslim Congress.

80. Document E/1986/15 also made no mention of activities organized by the Secretariat to implement the plan of activities established by the Economic and Social Council and adopted by consensus by the General Assembly. Those activities included the

Seminar on Community Relations Commissions and Their Functions, held at Geneva in September 1985, the Seminar on International Assistance and Support to Peoples and Movements Struggling against Colonialism, Racism, Racial Discrimination and *Apartheid*, to be held in Cameroon, and studies on the subject. That information could have been included in a separate section of the report.

81. The Economic and Social Council should not only inform the General Assembly about activities carried out under or contemplated in the Programme of Action for the Second Decade, but also examine and evaluate the plan of activities and submit relevant recommendations. Moreover, the Council obviously could not consider, let alone submit recommendations on, activities about which it was not informed. The Secretary-General's report was incomplete and he therefore requested the Secretariat to clarify and supplement, as far as possible, the information contained in document E/1986/15. In addition, the Council might consider the possibility of formulating precise guidelines on the format and content of future reports of the Secretary-General on that subject.

AGENDA ITEM 4

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (continued) (A/41/45)

82. Mr. KAWASHIMA (Japan) said that many important instruments had been drafted since the United Nations had proclaimed the International Women's Year, by General Assembly resolution 3010 (XXVII), and the United Nations Decade for Women, by Assembly resolution 3520 (XXX). Probably the most important instrument of all was the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.¹⁴

83. While Japan acknowledged that it would not be easy to change cultural traditions in a short period of time or to revise the existing complex judicial system, it nevertheless urged all Member States that had not yet done so to ratify or accede to the Convention. Similarly, it reiterated its vigorous support for the activities of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

84. He emphasized the importance of women's participation in the development process and drew attention to the valuable contribution made by the United Nations Development Fund for Women. His Government had recently contributed 68.7 million yen to that Fund. Approximately half of that sum had been allocated to the information activities of the Branch for the Advancement of Women of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs.

The meeting rose at 6.05 p.m.

9th meeting

Friday, 2 May 1986, at 3.15 p.m.

President: Mr. Manuel DOS SANTOS (Mozambique)

E/1986/SR.9

AGENDA ITEM 2

Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (continued) (E/1986/14 and Add.1, E/1986/15, E/1986/53)

1. Mrs. REBONG (Philippines) said that whatever success the United Nations could achieve in the economic, social or political fields would be meaningless if there were people in the world whose basic right to be treated as human beings was denied. Her country had always warmly supported activities and legal instruments designed to eliminate racism and racial discrimination, such as the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.² Nevertheless, despite those and many other serious efforts in practically all areas of activity, racism and racial discrimination persisted. Her delegation was particularly concerned over the situation prevailing in South Africa, where the evil system of *apartheid*, with all its attendant atrocities, was the institutionalized policy of the State, which was reflected in acts of repression, brutality, torture and killing and extended beyond the frontiers with acts of aggression and terrorism against neighbouring States.
2. The fact that that despicable régime continued to exist despite the measures adopted in certain sectors of the international community highlighted the need for a collective effort to eliminate it. The Government of South Africa, which had the support of some United Nations Member States, continued to promise reforms which in fact were no more than cosmetic changes. A system as evil as *apartheid* was incapable of reform. It had to be completely abolished.
3. Her country had repeatedly expressed its condemnation of all discrimination, particularly *apartheid*, but condemnation of that system was not sufficient; specific steps had to be taken. Her country was assuming its responsibility in that connection and fulfilling its obligations as a State party to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination¹ and the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of *Apartheid*.⁸ On 16 May, it would sign the International Convention against *Apartheid* in Sports.¹⁵ Her country had no relations whatsoever with South Africa and would continue to comply faithfully with all the relevant resolutions and decisions of the Security Council and of the General Assembly. It fully supported the Programme of Action for the Second Decade and called upon all States to implement it. Respect for human dignity must be of paramount importance and should take priority over all considerations of economic and political power.
4. Mr. SAIDU (Nigeria) said that it was difficult for the Council to evaluate the activities of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat

Racism and Racial Discrimination when the relevant report (E/1986/15), as a number of delegations had pointed out, was incomplete and omitted some of the activities undertaken.

5. That was one of the results of the twofold crisis, the one of confidence and the financial one, which the Organization was experiencing. The financial crisis could not be resolved immediately, but it was still possible for Member States to make determined efforts to make the system work more efficiently. One of the areas in which that collective effort was required was the elimination of racism and racial discrimination. The crisis must not be allowed to have adverse effects on the implementation of the activities of the Second Decade.

6. *Apartheid*, an evil practice that was one of the major threats to international peace and security and a crime against humanity, continued to flourish with the support of some powerful Members of the United Nations, whose concern for extracting profits from investments in South Africa took precedence over their interest in meeting their international responsibility. Through a series of oppressive laws and the blatant practice of State terrorism, the successive régimes in *apartheid* South Africa had violated all the laws of human decency. At the same time, a permanent threat had been created to the neighbouring States and to international peace and security. His delegation regretted that the so-called civilized world had not succeeded in wielding, or rather was unwilling to wield, its power in order to eliminate *apartheid*, power which it did not hesitate to use in less threatening situations.

7. Over the years many measures, including persuasion and diplomatic and other pressures, had been tried and all had proved ineffective. The people of South Africa, disgusted at the failure of the United Nations, were prepared to make any kind of sacrifice to put an end to *apartheid* and had stepped up their aggression against the oppressive régime. History was repeating itself. South Africa was not the first case in which blacks had rebelled against those who imposed cruel subjugation on them. In order not to lose the momentum, his delegation appealed to all peoples of good will to increase their support to the people of South Africa and especially to their national liberation movements.

8. Despite the decisions of the Security Council, the General Assembly and the International Court of Justice, the Pretoria régime had refused for 20 years to abandon Namibia; it had rejected the supervisory role assigned to it by the United Nations and had attempted to annex that Territory.

9. In the Middle East, the Palestinian problem continued unabated. The same Powers that assisted the racist régime of South Africa refused to exert their influence to resolve a situation that had become a serious threat to international peace and security. His delegation reminded the Powers that supported racist régimes that peaceful changes were more amenable to democracy than violent changes.

¹⁵General Assembly resolution 40/64 G, annex.

10. Mr. RODRIGO (Sri Lanka) said that from the very beginning the United Nations had been the major forum for combating racism. No society was completely homogeneous, but societies with many races and ethnic groups were undoubtedly the most vulnerable to racist ideologies, a situation which must be faced frankly, honestly and decisively, without allowing tensions to be exacerbated by outside elements acting from political motives.

11. The reports submitted by States to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination had played a major role in providing information on how they faced racial problems. Moreover, the fact that that kind of dialogue was possible with a United Nations body was welcome and encouraging and showed a desire to establish societies free of racial discrimination. His country, which had just submitted its second report, wished to reaffirm its full support for the principles and objectives of the Second Decade and for the preservation of a multiracial, multilingual and multireligious unitary State, despite the obstacles posed by some groups that were proposing the establishment of a mono-ethnic and racist State through violence and terrorism.

12. In the case of South Africa, the authorities, instead of promoting cultural diversity, were attempting to accentuate racial differences so that one group might continue to dominate the others. The notion of racial supremacy had been institutionalized against the will of the majority in order not only to enable an ethnic minority to exploit other groups economically and politically but also to create a perverted mystique and maintain domination. Every country which looked directly at the obscene face of *apartheid* had to recoil with revulsion. Nevertheless, although condemned by the world, *apartheid* had continued to exist, frequently changing its appearance, like some monstrous chameleon, in order to preserve its essence.

13. In spite of South Africa's claim, *apartheid* notwithstanding, to be the last bastion of Western civilization and, therefore, to deserve support and assistance, the world should reject that evil system and bring about its total elimination. Applauding each cynical little reform which was introduced, such as the one permitting the majority of the population to move about a little more freely in their own territory, was ridiculous. By spreading beyond the borders of South Africa, *apartheid* constituted a threat to the independence and sovereignty of the neighbouring independent States and jeopardized international peace and security. The oppressed people, guided by their liberation movements, were prepared to establish a just society in which fundamental rights were respected without distinction as to race or colour. That objective coincided with the goal of the Palestinian people, which wished to establish an independent State in which everyone enjoyed freedom of thought and expression.

14. His delegation had stressed the need to adopt practical measures and implement them rigorously and felt, like many other delegations, that an attempt should be made to integrate in a co-ordinated and practical manner the various aspects of United Nations activities aimed at combating racism and racial discrimination in all its forms.

15. Mr. MOHAMED (Somalia) said that the racist policies of South Africa had been a subject of discussion since the establishment of the United

Nations. The international community should continue to monitor those policies and apply the necessary pressure in order to eliminate that inhuman system.

16. The international community had repeatedly condemned the acts of violence and repression against the black people and had supported the national liberation movements. Somalia provided material and moral support to the people of South Africa in their struggle to establish a true democracy.

17. The illegal occupation of Namibia and the actions of South Africa designed to destabilize southern Africa politically and economically had caused international problems.

18. Israel collaborated with South Africa, and that should be no surprise since both countries conducted similar policies. Somalia condemned that collaboration and expressed its support for the PLO, SWAPO and the ANC.

19. Mrs. DERMENDJIEVA (Observer for Bulgaria) said that the racism and racial discrimination institutionalized by the *apartheid* régime of South Africa and Namibia continued to be a tragic reality in the world of today. The reasons for the continued existence of *apartheid* were well known. Huge profits and geo-strategic advantages in return for solid political, diplomatic, economic and military support and assistance were the medium of exchange between the racist régime of South Africa, a number of Western countries and the transnational corporations operating under its jurisdiction. In that exchange, human life and dignity were sacrificed and the basic precepts of human rights were violated.

20. Although the international community had identified with certainty the major obstacles to the elimination of *apartheid*, it should adopt new, more forceful measures in that regard. Her delegation wished to reiterate its full support for the call for the application of sanctions against South Africa under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations and for an immediate and definitive halt to the acts of aggression by South Africa against the neighbouring African States. She also supported all efforts to bring about an equitable solution to the question of Namibia and ensure its independence in accordance with the relevant decisions and resolutions of the Security Council and the General Assembly.

21. The People's Republic of Bulgaria not only did not maintain political or trade relations with South Africa but also provided assistance to the oppressed peoples of southern Africa and participated in United Nations activities in that regard. It had recently hosted a regional symposium for the countries of Eastern Europe on strengthening international solidarity with the heroic struggle of the Namibian people.

22. There were also other areas for concern in the struggle against racism and racial discrimination. One could not ignore the direct link between that issue and the policies and practices of aggression and discrimination carried out against the Palestinian people and the Arab population of the occupied Arab territories. Another serious problem was the alarming resurgence in a number of countries of right-wing groups, organizations and even political parties which openly defended racist theories and incited xenophobic and racist sentiments among the population.

23. Her delegation hoped that the United Nations would give due attention to those problems within the framework of the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination. Unfortunately, reading document E/1986/15 in the light of the Programme of Action, one had the impression that the efforts of certain groups to diminish the importance which the United Nations attached to the struggle against racism at the international level were producing results. A piecemeal and one-sided educational approach seemed to be replacing the consistent, analytical and action-oriented approach which was required.
24. The international community should also stress the importance of making the existing instruments for the elimination of racism, racial discrimination and *apartheid* even more universal. The fact that accession to those instruments or their ratification continued to be politically inconceivable for certain States should not be ignored.
25. At the current time, there was a situation of rampant racial discrimination in Turkey. In that country, minorities were prohibited from speaking, studying or publishing in their native languages, under an express provision of the Constitution and by other laws. Violations were punishable by one to three years' imprisonment. The languages concerned were Kurdish, Armenian, Arabic, Greek, Bulgarian and others.
26. Such measures reflected the repressive policies of the Turkish authorities towards minorities. It should also be noted that the first instance of genocide in the twentieth century had occurred in Turkey and that it had resulted in the extermination of 1.5 million Armenians. About one third of the territory of Turkey was currently under a perpetual state of emergency, designed to keep the 14 million Kurds living there under tight control. Concerning other minorities, it should be noted that, in Constantinople, of the previous Greek population of 400,000, fewer than 4,000 remained.
27. The Bulgarian delegation had singled out Turkey as an example of what was also occurring in some other countries, and to show why those countries dared not accede to human-rights instruments. That was the real reason for Turkey's slanderous allegations against Bulgaria. She wished to set the record straight. The socialist system in Bulgaria not only recognized the full equality of all citizens before the law but also provided material guarantees to give effect to that policy, which meant that all citizens enjoyed economic, social and cultural, as well as civil and political, rights without distinction as to language or religion. Bulgaria regularly submitted its periodic reports for consideration by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, and that Committee had examined her country's eighth report without in any way rejecting Bulgaria's position, as the Turkish delegation had insinuated.
28. Mr. RAMCHARAN (Centre for Human Rights), referring to the comments which had been made on document E/1986/15, said that they would be taken into account in the preparation of future reports.
29. He pointed out that the decisions of the General Assembly on activities to be undertaken by the Secretariat in connection with the Second Decade were being fully implemented. The activities included two seminars, a media round table, preparation of a study on discrimination against minority children and the children of migrant workers, a study on the action of private groups, holding training courses on the drafting of anti-discrimination laws and the compilation of relevant legislation. A seminar was currently being held at Yaoundé on which the Zambian delegation had requested information. The relevant information was contained in the press release on the opening of the seminar.
30. Regarding the concern expressed as to whether the Council had been fully informed of the activities taking place in connection with the Decade, he said that document E/1986/15 should be read in conjunction with document E/1985/16 and Add.1, which contained detailed information on the activities of the Centre for Human Rights, the Commission on Human Rights, the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, the *Ad Hoc* Working Group of Experts on Southern Africa, the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, the Special Committee against *Apartheid* and the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations. Since the activities of those bodies were conducted on an ongoing basis, the information contained in the 1985 report was not included in the 1986 report. Perhaps that was not the best approach, and it would be changed in future.
31. Concerning the information requested by some delegations on action currently being taken, he pointed out that the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities had adopted several concrete decisions on the struggle against racism and racial discrimination and had also sent the South African authorities a telegram calling for the release of Nelson Mandela. A study was also under way for the purpose of evaluating the progress achieved in the first Decade and thereby arriving at conclusions on the new activities that could be undertaken in the remaining years of the Second Decade. The Sub-Commission had also adopted a resolution requesting the Governments of the States Members of the United Nations to take action, whether unilaterally or collectively, to bring about the political, economic, military and cultural isolation of South Africa.
32. The Commission on Human Rights had decided that, in keeping with the thematic approach taken in its activities, the theme in 1985 would be assistance to peoples and movements which were fighting against racism, racial discrimination and *apartheid*. In 1987, the focus would be on the main problems encountered in seeking the total elimination of those ideologies. Moreover, a report on allegations of infringements of trade-union rights in South Africa (E/1986/37) had been submitted to the Commission by the *Ad Hoc* Working Group of Experts.
33. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination was disseminating information on its work concerning the Second Decade and was considering the possibility of holding a seminar.
34. The Human Rights Committee had reaffirmed the rights of aliens in paragraph 2 of document E/1986/16.
35. The General Assembly, at its fortieth session, had adopted various resolutions on the Decade.

36. Moreover, concrete actions had been taken in four main areas: migrant workers (draft convention, referred to in General Assembly resolution 40/130); minorities (draft declaration of the Commission on Human Rights); indigenous populations (establishment of a Fund, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 40/131); and individuals who were not nationals of the country in which they lived (Declaration by the General Assembly, by its resolution 40/144).

37. Since the activities relating to the Decade had been very numerous, the problem had not been one of lack of activities but rather of lack of communications; therefore, in view of the discussion and requests for additional information, if the delegations and the Council felt that the additional information provided orally should be set forth in an addendum to the report submitted to the Council (E/1986/15) for subsequent consideration by the General Assembly at its forty-first session, the Centre was prepared to do so. The Secretary-General had reaffirmed his desire to provide maximum assistance to the Council to enable it to fulfil its mandate in relation to the Second Decade. Moreover, it should be noted that a process of evolution was occurring, which made it possible to reach some conclusions; he therefore appealed to the delegations and the Council to understand the situation, and he reiterated that, in future, an attempt would be made to satisfy the objections expressed.

38. Miss EMARA (Egypt) said that the Council had hoped to receive a detailed report on what had already been accomplished with regard to the plan of activities approved by the Council in the framework of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade, so that evaluations and suggestions could be made.

39. Mr. LINDGREN (Brazil) said that he had not intended to criticize the Centre; often the representatives themselves could not comply with what was requested.

40. Mr. MAHONEY (Observer for the Gambia) said that he hoped that the content and form of future reports would coincide more with expectations and asked that the oral information provided by the representative of the Centre should be incorporated in document E/1986/15.

41. Mr. RAMCHARAN (Centre for Human Rights) said that future reports submitted to the Council would be more comprehensive, and that the Council should decide whether to incorporate the information provided orally into the report (E/1986/15). As to the observations of the representative of Egypt, he said that, when the General Assembly had adopted the Programme of Action, it had indicated a series of measures that should be taken by the United Nations and by Governments, international and non-governmental organizations and individuals, and in that context it had asked the Secretary-General to propose practical actions so that the General Assembly could decide which ones should be carried out in the period from 1985 to 1995. He had already reported on the progress which had been made. With regard to activities outside the United Nations system, the reports submitted by the Centre depended on information which it received from those sources. If there was another sector for which more data were needed, the Centre would try to obtain them.

42. Miss EMARA (Egypt) said that her delegation was not asking for more information on any other

sector; however, the report submitted in the current year by the Secretariat was unsatisfactory, and the Council was not accustomed to hearing oral reports; she therefore reiterated that the Council needed a detailed report in writing on the progress achieved in the implementation of the plan of activities.

43. Miss AIOUAZE (Observer for Algeria) said that the reason for the problem was that the Centre's report did not provide the Council with data, suggestions or proposals relating to the activities of the Decade.

44. Mr. RAMCHARAN (Centre for Human Rights) said that all necessary steps would be taken to ensure that future reports provided the data requested.

45. Mr. AKYOL (Turkey), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that the representative of Bulgaria had made various irrelevant, incorrect and politically motivated statements. Bulgaria could not evade its responsibilities by resorting to unfounded accusations. Nothing justified the serious violation of the rights of the Turkish-Muslim minority in Bulgaria.

46. Turkey was not the only country which criticized the situation in Bulgaria. The Sixteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers had expressed concern at the fate of the Turkish-Muslim minority in Bulgaria, reflecting international concern about Bulgaria's policy, as was clear from the resolution on the subject adopted by the Conference and contained in the annex to document A/41/93; it had urged the full restoration of the religious and cultural rights of that minority. The European Parliamentary Assembly had appealed to the Government of Bulgaria to put an immediate end to its repressive policy.

47. Moreover, in December 1985, the Greek Supreme Court had rejected a request from the Bulgarian Government for the extradition of three Bulgarian citizens of Turkish origin and had established that those individuals had left Bulgaria to escape the persecution to which they had been subjected.

48. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination had considered the revised text of a Bulgarian report (CERD/C/118/Add.17/Rev.1), the purpose of which had simply been to eliminate the reference to the Turkish minority which appeared in the original version of the report (CERD/C/118/Add.17). The members of the Committee had pointed out the differences between the two texts and had condemned the Government's attitude (CERD/C/SR.761).

49. The Government of Turkey had no need to discredit the Government of Bulgaria, which had seriously hurt its own image; what was needed was for Bulgaria to change its racial policy. Meanwhile, Turkey would closely follow events concerning the Turkish minority in Bulgaria.

50. Mr. GOLEMANOV (Observer for Bulgaria), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that Turkey was trying to hold itself up as a defender of presumed victims of racial discrimination so as not to explain the situation in its own country. He wondered whether Turkey was proud of its policy of racial discrimination against Kurds, Arabs, Greeks, Bulgarians and Armenians, or its illegal occupation of a large part of Cyprus or the numerous political prisoners in Turkish jails.

51. As to the eighth periodic report of Bulgaria on the implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimi-

nation, he pointed out that the procedure used by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination was to ask questions of the representative of the country which had submitted the report, who then replied to them. The same procedure had been followed for Bulgaria's report, and its representatives had duly replied to the questions. The problems currently being raised by Turkey stemmed from political motives and not from humanitarian considerations.

52. Mr. AKYOL (Turkey), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that his delegation did not understand what the reply of the Government of Bulgaria had been on the question of the violation of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of the Turkish minority in Bulgaria. Some type of clarification on a matter which was the subject of condemnation by world public opinion was the least that was to be expected.

53. Turkey was prepared to welcome all members of the Turkish minority in Bulgaria who wished to emigrate and to initiate immediate negotiations for the conclusion of an agreement in that regard. Since everything was so perfect in Bulgaria, why not put to the test how happy the Turkish minority was in that country? The representative of Bulgaria could no doubt report on whether his Government was prepared to lift its restrictions on emigration and give the Turkish minority the right to choose freely their place of residence. If those people did not leave Bulgaria once they were allowed to do so, that country could then accuse Turkey of provocation. But if, on the other hand, Bulgaria did not allow those minorities to choose freely, Turkey would have sufficient cause to be concerned.

54. Mr. GOLEMANOV (Observer for Bulgaria), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, reminded the representative of Turkey that there was no Turkish minority in Bulgaria. The Ottoman Empire had disappeared more than a century earlier and Bulgaria was a sovereign State; accordingly, it would not allow the Ankara Government to tell it how to handle its own matters.

55. Miss BYRNE (United States of America), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that normally her delegation would not have replied to Zimbabwe's comments; however, the representative of Zimbabwe had gone too far in equating the Government of South Africa with that of the United States. It was said that a country which received considerable amounts of economic and technical assistance from the United States should not be represented by a delegation which expressed such biased opinions about the United States.

56. The United States had a long history of opposition to *apartheid* and racism; its arms embargo against South Africa pre-dated the United Nations resolution. Within the United States, both the Government and the people had long been striving to eliminate all vestiges of racism from society.

57. Trade with South Africa represented only a very small percentage of total United States trade. By contrast, 80 per cent of Zimbabwe's external trade was with South Africa. Some 17,000 Zimbabweans were working in South Africa and Zimbabwe had received some 1 million rand in South Africa investments. Zimbabwe's tourism depended heavily on South Africa, for one quarter of all tourists visiting Zimbabwe came from South Africa. Her delegation

was mentioning that not to criticize Zimbabwe but simply to demonstrate that the modern world was much more complex and interdependent than would appear from the statements made by the representative of Zimbabwe.

58. Finally, the main thing was that all countries should unite their efforts to put an end to *apartheid* in a manner that did not bring about further suffering to the people of South Africa and to neighbouring countries.

59. Mr. CHIKETA (Zimbabwe), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, pointed out that the fact that Zimbabwe received assistance from a country did not mean that it had sold its sovereignty. With regard to the question of mutual collaboration and the statement that the United States and South Africa were birds of the same feather, that statement was borne out by the facts. South Africa's goal in southern Africa was very clear: it was to destabilize neighbouring countries and anyone who assisted South Africa in that, for example, by giving assistance to UNITA (União Nacional para a Independência Total de Angola), in Angola, was collaborating with the racists.

60. The States of southern Africa had so far lost more than \$10 billion due to the sabotage and destabilizing operations of South Africa; the amount of assistance which Zimbabwe or the States in the region might receive did not make up for those \$10 billion.

61. Miss BYRNE (United States of America), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that it was not Zimbabwe's sovereignty or its assessment of South Africa's actions that was at stake but the statement that the United States and South Africa were birds of the same feather, the equating of President Reagan with President Botha and the use of the expression "racist Reagan Administration" in reference to the United States Government. Although those words did not appear in the printed text of the statement circulated by the delegation of Zimbabwe at the 8th meeting, they had been said at that meeting by the representative of Zimbabwe.

62. Mr. CHIKETA (Zimbabwe), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that the allegation that he had mentioned Mr. Reagan or Mr. Botha in his statement the preceding day was unfounded and he challenged the representative of the United States to prove otherwise. Her informants must provide proof of what they were saying.

63. Referring again to economic assistance to Zimbabwe he said that his country could not refrain from criticizing something which it felt was wrong simply because it was receiving economic assistance. Zimbabwe had fought for its freedom and also for the right to express its views freely.

64. Reference had also been made, during the debate, to the thousands of workers in Zimbabwe. Nevertheless, hundreds of whites who had gone to South Africa when Zimbabwe became independent were returning because Zimbabwe had a free society where racial harmony reigned.

65. The PRESIDENT announced that the Council had concluded its general debate on agenda item 2.

AGENDA ITEM 4

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (continued)
(A/41/45*)

66. Miss GIBSON (Canada) expressed support for the efforts made by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to improve the efficiency of its work. If it was able to consider no more than eight reports each year, a serious backlog could develop in the near future. Since delays of over one year were not desirable when considering reports submitted, it was necessary to address that problem. Accordingly, she urged the Committee to continue to develop effective procedures to deal with a larger number of reports at each session.

67. Canada was concerned that the funding of women's programmes should not suffer disproportionately in the current cost-cutting exercises. Funding for the execution of such programmes, including possible expansion, should be found from within the existing resource base; she was not suggesting that there should be an increase in the overall United Nations budget, rather that current priorities should be reassessed. In general, there was need for greater co-ordination and exchange of information between the Committee, the Secretariat and other United Nations bodies, particularly in the provision of statistical data to facilitate the Committee's work.

68. Canada was pleased that the number of States which had ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women¹⁴ had increased. While reservations that were not incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention were permitted, reservations should be discouraged as much as possible in relation to all basic instruments dealing with human rights. At their latest meeting, the States parties had decided that the question of reservations should be considered in full at the 1988 meeting; it had also been pointed out that the Secretary-General should seek the views of States parties on the question of reservations and that those views should be included in his report on the status of the Convention which was to be submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-first session. Her delegation urged all States parties to take advantage of that opportunity to express their views.

69. Mr. KOMISSAROV (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) said that the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women played an important role since it made it possible to exchange experiences on how countries implemented policies designed to improve the status of women. The Byelorussian SSR was a member of the Commission on the Status of Women and it had been one of the first States to ratify the Convention and to implement its provisions.

70. As was pointed out in the report of the Committee (A/41/45), in socialist societies, the principle of equality was guaranteed by the Constitution and by law. Specifically, the economic and social development plans of the Byelorussian SSR contained provisions protecting women and children and there was a standing committee to monitor their implementation; all public and governmental organizations were trying steadily to improve the working conditions of

women; women were represented in Government and in the Supreme Soviet of the Republic. More than 37 per cent of the deputies were women and women also accounted for 54.5 per cent of specialists with advanced university diplomas who held public office. Moreover, on the occasion of the Thirtieth Congress of the Communist Party, additional measures had been adopted to contribute to the well-being of women and of society in general.

71. In pursuit of the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women, it had once again been the experience that there was a close link between the status of women and the world situation. The strengthening of international peace and security, the steps taken to avoid nuclear war and the establishment of a new international economic order, among other factors, could do much to improve the status of women. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women had therefore done well to adopt a resolution on the International Year of Peace (*ibid.*, annex I).

72. The developing countries which had gained their independence after an arduous struggle had made certain advances where the status of women and their participation in society were concerned. However, their economic and social progress was still being held back by many internal and external problems, such as the structures of colonial and neo-colonial exploitation, *apartheid*, racism and imperialist aggression.

73. Moreover, the status of women had deteriorated in many capitalist countries because of the economic crisis, inflation, discrimination, the reduction of social benefits and the absence of legislation on the question. The only explanation for the failure of those countries to ratify the Convention was that they wanted to perpetuate the current situation in which women were not equal.

74. His delegation endorsed the General Assembly's call to all Member States, without exception, to accede to the Convention. He emphasized, in particular, the appeal made to the United States of America to demonstrate, as a permanent member of the Security Council, that it had the necessary political will to become a party to the Convention. He also urged countries to submit their periodic reports on the implementation of the Convention when they were due.

75. The Committee must continue to do its work on the basis of solutions acceptable to all countries involved. It must at the same time avoid issues that fell outside its mandate and those that were within the exclusive competence of the States parties to the Convention.

76. Mr. RICHTER (German Democratic Republic) said that the report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its fifth session (A/41/45) showed that the Committee was successfully meeting its assigned responsibilities. Various States with different social systems had had the opportunity to report to the Committee in 1986 on their successes and difficulties in implementing the Convention. The ideas expressed should serve as the basis for the universal observance of the principle of equality between men and women, and they should also serve to hasten the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, adopted at the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the

*A corrigendum (A/41/45/Corr.1) was issued on 15 October 1986.

United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,¹¹ initiated by the General Assembly in its resolution 40/108.

77. His delegation welcomed the resolution on the International Year of Peace adopted by the Committee (*ibid.*, annex I), which recalled the report of the Nairobi Conference. In adopting that resolution, the Committee had demonstrated that it was not allowing itself to be influenced by the opinion that the activities of functional organs of the United Nations must be depoliticized.

78. At the Eleventh Congress of his country's Socialist Unity Party, note had been taken, *inter alia*, of the provisions of the Convention guaranteeing equal rights for men and women and the integration of women in political, economic, social and cultural development. In the German Democratic Republic, those provisions were part of the law and were applied in practice. The full development of women was made possible by an unrestricted respect for human rights and human dignity and by the guarantee of the rights to education, work and social benefits.

79. Recently, the Council of Ministers of the German Democratic Republic had adopted three provisions increasing financial assistance to families with children. Four hundred million marks per year had been allocated for the purpose, over and above the regular budget; that was an eloquent example of the assistance being given so that women could better reconcile motherhood and work.

80. The debate that had taken place during the Committee's fifth session showed that many countries were putting into practice the principle of equality of men and women, despite the complicated international situation and its negative consequences on social and economic development. That fact should encourage other States to accede to the Convention.

81. Mrs. SANTHOSO (Indonesia) said that her Government's signing and ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women¹⁴ manifested Indonesia's involvement in the activities of the international community to achieve the basic goal of the Convention. The principle of equal rights of men and women was an integral part of the Constitution of 1945 and of national legislation and State policy, which enhanced the role of women in the development of the country and their participation in a broad range of activities. The law also recognized the equality of men and women within the family, and marriage did not in any way diminish the rights of Indonesian women under the law; in addition, both parents were equally responsible for bringing up children.

82. Her Government, in co-operation with non-governmental organizations, was making efforts to offer greater opportunities to women living in rural areas. Programmes to promote better health and education were made available through centres established in the communities, in order to facilitate access to the programmes and provide services to all citizens.

83. Mrs. ALVAREZ (France) said that the report on the fifth session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women contained useful information, and she called special attention to two general observations that had a bearing on the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advance-

ment of Women.¹¹ One concerned measures to be taken by States parties to involve more women at decision-making levels of government and officially sponsored delegations to the United Nations and to other international organizations. The other had to do with measures to be introduced by States parties that had not yet done so to overcome social and cultural obstacles to equality of men and women.

84. When the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women¹⁴ had entered into force in France, most of the measures that States parties undertook to adopt under the Convention had already been adopted and put into practice in her country.

85. With regard to equality between men and women in employment, the principle of equal remuneration had been incorporated into the Labour Code by the Act of 22 December 1972; the General Public Administration Statute of 1946 provided for equality in hiring and dismissal, and its provisions had been gradually improved and supplemented over the years. In the private sector, the Act of 13 July 1983 reinforced the prohibition of discrimination in any profession on grounds of sex or family situation. In 1984, a Higher Council of Professional Equality between Men and Women had been set up, to be consulted on bills and decrees on the question and on texts relating to specific conditions of work peculiar to either sex. The Council could initiate investigations, promote action and make proposals to foster professional equality between men and women. In addition, with regard to civil rights, the Act of 23 December 1985 had eliminated the last remaining differences in the area of family inheritance law.

86. Her delegation was aware of the apprehension voiced recently by some delegations in connection with the reservations of some States concerning certain articles of the Convention, and recalled that, on 22 March 1984, France had withdrawn its reservations concerning article 7. Moreover, the entry into force of the law of 23 December 1985 would enable the French Government to withdraw its reservation concerning article 15, paragraphs 2 and 3, and article 16, paragraphs 1 (c), (d) and (h), all of which related to family inheritance law. Her delegation wished to stress the importance which it attached to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and hoped that as many States as possible would ratify and implement it.

87. Mr. QUINN (Australia) said that his country took a close interest in the activities of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and was pleased that an Australian expert currently served on that body.

88. At its fifth session, the Committee had made progress in its work and for the first time had drawn general conclusions from its scrutiny of the reports before it. First of all, the Committee had adopted a suggestion concerning the establishment of public machinery or institutions by States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women¹⁴ to ensure the effective elimination of discrimination against women. Australia, which already had such machinery, endorsed that proposal. Nevertheless, the existence of a specific body for that purpose did not mean that women's issues should be seen as separate and compartmentalized, since only through proper par-

ticipation in the decision-making processes at all levels could women achieve full equality.

89. The Committee had also concerned itself with unemployment and the situation of women in rural areas, and had identified some priority areas which States parties must take into account in preparing their reports. Australia hoped that the Committee would continue to define its requirements clearly in order to help reporting countries to focus on key issues.

90. The United Nations was currently actively studying how to streamline the consideration of reports in the bodies which monitored the implementation of international human-rights instruments. That discussion was applicable to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, where there was already a large backlog of reports and it was impossible to support more frequent or extended meetings. Practical solutions must therefore be found for considering initial reports more rapidly and for adjusting the process of submitting subsequent reports. States parties with limited resources should also be given assistance in preparing their reports.

91. Another issue discussed by the Committee had been the reservations of some countries concerning the Convention, particularly article 28, paragraph 2. The discussion of that question in the Committee had set the scene for an exchange of views between States parties at the meeting which had taken place in New York in March. On that occasion, an important decision urging States parties to observe scrupulously article 28, paragraph 2, had been adopted by consensus, and the Secretary-General had been requested to seek the views of States parties on the issue and to include them in his next annual report to the General Assembly on that subject. His country actively supported that decision and wished to take the opportunity to encourage States parties to make comments for inclusion in the Secretary-General's report. The problem of reservations was complex and it rested primarily with States parties to review their reservations in order to harmonize them with the objectives of the Convention.

92. His delegation trusted that the Council would repeat its exhortation to countries to sign and ratify the Convention and that the resolution which it adopted would address the practical issues already mentioned.

93. The PRESIDENT announced that the Council had concluded its general debate on agenda item 4.

AGENDA ITEM 5

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (E/1986/16)

94. Ms. DANIELSEN (Observer for Norway), speaking on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Sweden and Norway, said that the Nordic countries attached equal importance to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights¹⁶ and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights¹⁶ and held that States had an obligation to safeguard the individual against oppression and the abuse of power. All human rights were interdependent and mutually reinforcing. The theory that

¹⁶For the text of the Covenant, see General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

certain economic and social rights had to be fulfilled before the implementation of civil and political rights could be envisaged was therefore unacceptable. Lack of social and economic development could not justify the suppression of basic civil and political rights.

95. Since the adoption of the Covenants 20 years previously, only about half of the States Members of the United Nations had acceded to them and only one third had acceded to the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.¹⁷ The delegations of the Nordic countries hoped that the number of ratifications might be increased in the near future. In that connection, they noted with interest the appeal launched by the Secretary-General, on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the United Nations, to all Member States to fulfil their obligation fully to respect human rights in accordance with the principles enshrined in the Covenants, and believed that the Secretary-General could play an important role in encouraging those Member States that had not yet done so to ratify the Covenants.

96. Another important element was the dissemination of the texts of the Covenants and the Optional Protocol, in which all Governments, as well as the United Nations, must co-operate. Moreover, lack of the necessary legal infrastructure might be a problem that prevented some States from ratifying the Covenants. The United Nations might also provide assistance in that area.

97. The reporting system under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights was useful in promoting human rights and allowed Governments to enter into a dialogue with the Human Rights Committee on questions which were usually delicate. The Human Rights Committee had gained the respect of the parties to the Covenant, thereby making it possible to recommend measures to improve the human rights situation in certain countries. It was therefore a matter of concern that a considerable number of States parties were not fulfilling their reporting obligations. Delays in reporting, or the non-submission of reports, made it difficult for the Committee to perform its function and might in the long run undermine the standing of the Covenant. The delegations of the Nordic countries hoped that all States would initiate steps to ensure the timely submission of their reports.

98. The delegations of the Nordic countries felt that the general comments submitted by the Human Rights Committee on the articles of the Covenant provided an excellent opportunity for the Council to examine and deepen its understanding of the rights and duties laid down in the Covenant. It was the duty of the United Nations to ensure that the Committee was able to fulfil its obligations, particularly when the Organization was faced with an acute financial crisis. Governments for their part should also pay close attention to those comments.

99. Lastly, in one's eagerness to elaborate new human-rights instruments, one must not forget that it was equally important to implement those instruments that already existed.

100. Mr. SAFRONCHUK (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the universal recognition and implementation of the International Covenants on Human Rights and the conventions against *apar-*

¹⁷For the text of the Optional Protocol, *idem*.

heid, genocide and racial discrimination were the driving force of international activities to guarantee fundamental human rights and freedoms and to strengthen the right to self-determination of peoples, as well as the civil, political, economic and social rights of the individual. The Covenants were more than just declarations. They were legal norms and obligations that were binding on States parties and must be fulfilled by them under a State policy that was in keeping with the principles enshrined in the Covenants.

101. The Soviet Union, which had been the first permanent member of the Security Council to ratify the Covenants, applied their provisions systematically and observed strictly its obligations under them. Human rights were indivisible and interdependent and the enjoyment of one group of rights was based on the recognition and implementation of all the others. Hence, political rights could not be put into practice unless social rights were enjoyed, and vice versa. That approach was reflected in General Assembly resolution 40/114.

102. All the rights enshrined in the Covenants were reflected in and guaranteed by Soviet legislation. Socialism had eliminated the main source of social injustice: the exploitation of man by man. Social justice reigned in all spheres and was embodied in the real power of the people, the equality of all citizens before the law and the provision of social guarantees to the population as a whole. Strict and genuine observance of the principle of social justice was a pre-condition for the unity, stability and development of society, in that, as Mr. Gorbachev had told the Twenty-seventh Congress of the Communist Party, "Democracy is the wholesome and pure air without which a socialist public organism cannot live a full-blooded life".

103. The Soviet Union paid special attention to free participation in the conduct of public and social affairs. Bodies of State authority and administration had from the outset been conceived as organs of genuine democracy made up of the representatives of the popular masses, since government should not be the privilege of a narrow circle of professionals. The socialist system owed its success to the involvement of millions of people in political life; it was government by the workers for the workers, just as Lenin had conceived it. Soviet State organs comprised over 2.3 million people's representatives, representing all nationalities and social groups. The fact that there were more workers and peasants in the Supreme Soviet, the highest authority in the land, than in the parliaments of the developed capitalist States offered a practical example of the full implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

104. It was a matter of concern to the Soviet Union that certain States continued their policy of boycotting the Covenants and refused to comply with international norms relating to the political and socio-economic rights of the individual, thereby hindering the strengthening of international co-operation in the field of human rights. Such States refused to accede to the Covenants and instead pursued policies which violated human rights, manifesting themselves in unjust and discriminatory systems and repression of the struggle for equality. Governments and the mass media in such countries were dominated by those who protected the interests of monopolies, militarism and the reactionary groups which had recently gained the upper hand in certain

Western capitalist countries and had launched an offensive against the rights of the working people. All available means were being used to that end: trade unions were being subjected to persecution and economic blackmail; anti-labour laws were being enacted; left-wing and progressive groups were being persecuted; and there was surveillance and monitoring of individuals' behaviour and ideas. In short, individualism, the principle that might make right in the fight for survival, immorality and hatred of all that was democratic were being cultivated on an unprecedented scale.

105. The Soviet Union attached great importance to strengthening international co-operation in the field of human rights and to the universal recognition and implementation of the Covenants. His delegation appealed to all States which were not yet parties to the Covenants to accede to them, and urged them, including the United States, to support such international co-operation and observe the fundamental freedoms and rights enshrined in the Covenants.

106. Mr. ENKHSAIKHAN (Observer for Mongolia) said that 1986, the International Year of Peace, offered Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations an opportunity to initiate new strategies to promote and give practical expression to the aspiration of all peoples for universal peace, an aspiration that was enshrined in the Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace,¹⁸ and was a *sine qua non* for achieving the fundamental rights and freedoms of all peoples and individuals. Thus, every effort to maintain and strengthen international peace and security also promoted economic development and the enjoyment of human rights.

107. Human rights had been ensured in Mongolia 65 years earlier with the abolition of the feudal system and foreign domination, the establishment of a people's democratic State, and the adoption of far-reaching socio-economic measures to ensure the development of the country and an essential material base on which the practical implementation of such rights could be founded. Mongolia considered that international co-operation was needed to secure the full attainment of human rights and noted with satisfaction that the United Nations international human rights instruments, which it had signed and ratified, had contributed to progress in that field. Mongolia also supported the view that the United Nations should deal first and foremost with mass and flagrant violations of human rights resulting from the policies of colonialism, racism, fascism, *apartheid*, genocide, aggression, expansion and domination, striking evidence of which could be found in South Africa, in the Arab territories occupied by Israel, in Chile and in other countries.

108. Mongolia attached special importance to the practical implementation and observance of the provisions of the international human rights covenants, which were valuable, internationally recognized legal instruments. For its part, Mongolia had created favourable conditions for the full enjoyment by its citizens of the political, civil, economic, social and cultural rights proclaimed in those instruments. Nevertheless, while expressing its satisfaction at the increase in the number of States parties to the Covenants, Mongolia was concerned that many countries had yet to accede to them, in particular certain Western countries which sought to confer on

¹⁸General Assembly resolution 39/11, annex.

themselves the right to judge how other countries complied with their provisions. Lastly, his delegation urged all States that had not yet done so to ratify or accede to the Covenants and appealed to all States parties to implement them strictly and conscientiously.

109. Mr. PASHKEVICH (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) said that in many United Nations documents and resolutions it was recognized that there was a close relationship between economic and social development and respect for human rights, on the one hand, and the arms race, on the other. The sooner measures were taken to end the arms race, the sooner it would be possible to guarantee human rights, in particular, the right to life. In that connection, the proposal made by the Soviet Union in January 1986 was of particular importance in that it set forth a programme of disarmament designed to safeguard the security of all mankind.

110. Despite the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,¹⁶ repressive measures were being taken in the capitalist countries against those who advocated peace and the right to life and against anti-nuclear movements. His delegation wished to know on the basis of what laws the United States justified subversion, the use of armed force, the conclusion of secret agreements and the recruitment of mercenaries to engage in activities against peace-loving nations and countries. It also wished to know how those who advocated human rights in other countries explained the existence within their own borders of millions of homeless and unemployed people, worsening racial discrimination and discrimination against minorities, and the main-

tenance of information files on every citizen, in particular, on peace and civil-rights activists.

111. International co-operation in the field of human rights required the implementation of the Covenant in countries with different socio-political systems. In the Byelorussian SSR, the social system guaranteed genuine respect for all the rights enshrined in the Constitution. The report submitted by the Byelorussian SSR to the Human Rights Committee stressed the remarkable development of its legislation in that area. Indeed, accession to the Covenant had not required major amendments to its current legislation.

112. At the Twenty-seventh Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and at the Thirtieth Congress of the Communist Party of the Byelorussian SSR, major documents had been submitted outlining strategies for the future development of society, including the implementation of human-rights provisions. The main objective of those documents was to promote progress for all members of society, the only prerequisite for which was the maintenance of peace.

113. His delegation stressed the need to implement the provisions of the Covenant throughout the world. Regrettably, some countries had not acceded to the Covenant on various pretexts, even though they displayed great concern when alleged human-rights violations in other countries were debated.

114. The PRESIDENT said that the Council had concluded its general debate on agenda item 5.

The meeting rose at 6.15 p.m.

10th meeting

Monday, 5 May 1986, at 10.30 a.m.

President: Mr. Manuel DOS SANTOS (Mozambique)

E/1986/SR.10

Applications for hearings by non-governmental organizations (E/1986/74)

1. The PRESIDENT drew attention to the report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on the applications for hearings submitted under items on the agenda of the current session (E/1986/74).

2. If he heard no objections, he would take it that the Council agreed to hear the organizations listed in paragraph 2 of that report.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 1

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (continued)

ASSISTANCE TO THE DROUGHT-STRICKEN AREAS OF ETHIOPIA

3. Mr. SHAH (Office for Emergency Operations in Africa), speaking in pursuance of paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 40/228, said that, while

the situation in Ethiopia had improved, there was no room for complacency as substantial emergency needs remained unmet, especially with regard to non-food items. Of the 1.5 million metric tons of emergency food aid required in 1985, donors had allocated more than 1.3 million tons. The major donors, the United States of America, the European Economic Community, the World Food Programme and Canada, had accounted for more than 70 per cent of food-aid allocations. Developing countries, too, had shown their solidarity by making contributions.

4. For 1985, the cost of emergency non-food items had amounted to \$295 million for assistance in areas such as logistics, health, water supply and sanitation, and the provision of blankets, clothing and shelter. Many of those needs had been met in 1985. However, as a result of inadequate rainfall in a number of areas in 1985, farmers had had no seeds to plant. To some extent, that accounted for the deficit of 1 million tons in food aid faced in 1986.

5. The Ethiopian people and Government and the international community had done much in 1985 to avert a major tragedy and to save thousands of lives.

The affected people, though weak, exhausted and physically vulnerable, had responded with great vitality and in a spirited and determined way.

6. The situation in 1986 was better, but substantial relief was still essential. Some 6.5 million people were in need of food and non-food aid, and the plight of children was of particular concern. Even in areas where rainfall had been adequate, farmers were unable to take advantage of the rains because of a lack of agricultural inputs.

7. The 393,000 Ethiopian returnees continued to need relief assistance. It was crucial that the \$166 million required for unmet needs should be allocated as early as possible during 1986, since the affected population remained vulnerable.

8. There were many lessons that had been painfully learned in 1985, but none was more important than that the timely delivery of relief aid to needy communities not only saved lives, but prevented the massive dislocation that occurred as people abandoned their homes in search of sustenance and shelter. Over the past 16 months, the rains had brought some improvement. However, one good rainy season could not be expected to undo the damage of several years of drought. Relief needs in Ethiopia remained substantial, and the root causes of the emergency must be addressed.

9. Mr. WORKU (Observer for Ethiopia) thanked the Office for Emergency Operations in Africa, and in particular its outgoing Director, Mr. Bradford Morse, for the praiseworthy job done during the crisis that had engulfed Africa over the past two years. In Ethiopia, the Government's Relief and Rehabilitation Commission had done much to assist the several million people who had been affected. Other Governments too had demonstrated their concern by assisting in a generous way. In other words, politics had given way to compassion. Thanks to that flood of good will, the situation seemed to be under control and the death toll had been dramatically reduced. Nature had also been kind, for the country had been receiving a reasonable amount of rainfall over the preceding two years.

10. Ethiopia was still unable, however, to take full advantage of the recent rains because of the inadequate supply of the agricultural inputs and farm implements that were essential to break the cycle of dependency and enable the people to lead a self-supporting and productive life. In addition, there were still some 6.5 million people who needed emergency assistance of all kinds, including food. The time was opportune for all the concerned Governments and international organizations which had always committed themselves to the cause of humanity to help the rehabilitation programme to become a reality. The Government and people of Ethiopia were ever indebted to all who had participated in such an unparalleled humanitarian act by helping the Ethiopian people to build a better and more secure future on the ruins of disaster.

AGENDA ITEM 6

University for Peace (E/1986/17)

11. Mrs. CASTRO de BARISH (Costa Rica) referred to the aims and purposes of the University for

Peace as set forth in article 2 of its Charter.¹⁹ Paragraph 20 of the report before the Council (E/1986/17) dealt specifically with the objective and philosophy of the University.

12. The idea that the University should try to find solutions to the problems brought to its attention by the agencies of the United Nations clearly reflected its important role in helping to disseminate the knowledge already existing within the United Nations. The United Nations international system itself would be studied as a new element for promoting harmony and dialogue and guaranteeing peace.

13. The report highlighted the notable achievements in the development of activities, programmes and goals of the University, despite limited human and financial resources. Dr. Victor Urquidí, President of the College of Mexico, had expressed gratification concerning those achievements, but had pointed out that one of the main objectives in the immediate future was to receive additional financial contributions. In that regard, particular mention must be made of the donation of \$1 million by the Japanese philanthropist, Mr. Ryoichi Sasakawa, to constitute the Endowment Fund of the University. In addition, the Swedish *Pax Mundi* Academy and the International Public Relations Association, located in London, had made annual grants to the University.

14. The accession of other countries to the International Agreement for the Establishment of the University for Peace was essential to making the institution universal. So far, 29 States Members of the United Nations had signed or acceded to the Agreement. The international community would demonstrate its commitment to the objectives of the International Year of Peace, which were also the objectives of the University, if there were more accessions to the Agreement.

15. In the area of co-operation and solidarity with the University, special note should be taken of the network of institutions established to assist in the strengthening of the curriculum and in the development of programmes. One example was the opening of the European Centre for Peace and Development at Belgrade, Yugoslavia. The policy of organizing international activities in co-ordination with other national and international institutions had produced very positive results and had contributed to the strengthening of the University for Peace.

16. Among the teaching activities which deserved particular mention was the programme for the Master's degree in communications for peace, which bore the name of Robert Schuman, the illustrious thinker and architect of modern Europe. The subjects listed in paragraph 103 of the report could all facilitate the study and understanding of the current political situation in the world. It was encouraging to note the participation of students from different regions, including Africa, Asia, Latin America, Canada and Western Europe, as well as the collaboration between the University for Peace and the University of Quebec, with the participation of teams of teachers from both institutions, and French, Spanish, Italian, Venezuelan and Costa Rican professors.

¹⁹For the text of the Charter of the University for Peace, as well as of the International Agreement for the Establishment of the University for Peace, see General Assembly resolution 35/55, annex.

17. The topics of specific programmes and the places in which they were conducted highlighted the co-operation between the University for Peace and various international bodies. One example of that had been the first International Symposium on Education for Peace, sponsored by the Neumann Foundation and the University for Peace, which had brought together several former Latin American heads of State to deliberate on the topic "The Exercise of Power in the Quest for Peace". Another outstanding aspect of the Symposium had been the participation of the principal representatives of international organizations, such as the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Civil Defence Organization and the International Labour Organisation.

18. Mention must also be made of a number of cultural, sporting and artistic activities promoted by the University for Peace, such as the "World Peace Games", held in France; the Festival of the International Day of Peace, held at the Royal Albert Hall in London; the special meeting held at the University in observance of the fortieth anniversary of the United Nations; and the International Peace Race, sponsored jointly by the Government of Costa Rica and the University for Peace.

19. Dr. Tapio Varis of Finland, a respected and well-known professor in the field of education and

research for peace, had been designated Rector of the University during the fifth session of the Council of the University. His appointment had been well received in academic circles and would no doubt facilitate co-operation agreements between the University and academic institutions interested in education and research for peace. During that session, the Council had also re-elected Mr. Rodrigo Carazo as its President for another two-year term, and had appointed Mr. Robert Muller, a French citizen, Chancellor of the University with the specific task of assisting in international relations and in the campaign to raise funds for the University. Mr. Muller had recently retired from the United Nations, which he had served for 38 years, and had generously offered his services to the University, which he considered of primordial importance in order to strengthen the efforts of the United Nations towards peace.

20. The University for Peace needed concrete support from the United Nations. Her delegation was currently consulting with others on the text of a draft resolution, which it hoped would receive the unanimous support of the Economic and Social Council.

The meeting rose at 11.30 a.m.

11th meeting

Wednesday, 7 May 1986, at 3.15 p.m.

President: Mr. Manuel DOS SANTOS (Mozambique)

E/1986/SR.11

AGENDA ITEM 7

Population questions (E/1986/18-A/41/179)

1. Mr. MANI (Director, Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation) introduced the report of the Secretary-General (E/1986/18-A/41/179), which had been prepared in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 39/228 and of Economic and Social Council resolution 1985/4. In preparing the report, the Secretariat had availed itself of the advice of members of the Population Commission, the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the specialized agencies, the regional economic commissions and relevant non-governmental organizations. Particular attention was drawn to the current in-depth evaluation of the United Nations population programme and to the final section of the report (paras. 64 to 75), which contained conclusions and recommendations designed to enhance the effectiveness of all United Nations bodies and units dealing with population questions and to identify concrete measures to secure more effective interaction among them. It was intended that practical measures should thus be developed to strengthen the functioning of the United Nations in the important field of population.

2. Ms. DANIELSEN (Observer for Norway), speaking on behalf of the Nordic countries, said that it was

encouraging to note that a broad consensus had emerged on the traditionally controversial issue of population policies over the decade leading up to the International Conference on Population, held at Mexico City in 1984. Nevertheless, such consensus represented only the beginning of a long process, and an immense task lay ahead both for individual Governments and for the United Nations. While the report contained an enlightening historical presentation of developments within the United Nations with respect to population questions and useful concrete recommendations, it did not provide an adequate assessment of the effectiveness of the various relevant United Nations organs or of the usefulness and relevance of their work. Some conclusions had therefore not been fully substantiated. Despite the conclusion drawn in paragraph 66, some confusion persisted with regard to the division of labour between the Population Division and the Statistical Office, both of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA), the Population Branch of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, the World Health Organization and other executing agencies. At a time of major financial constraint, all possibilities for savings and streamlining should be accorded due consideration. It remained important to maintain a distinction between research, funding and executing functions, and UNFPA and the Governing Council

of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) had a particular responsibility to ensure the avoidance of overlapping and duplication of work. The Economic and Social Council had an important role to play in co-ordination and the guidance of policy, and should give vigorous and detailed consideration to the separation of research, funding and execution functions in order to ensure a co-ordinated approach to the problems.

3. The Nordic countries fully endorsed the proposal that the Council should consider population questions at its second regular session so that it could review the reports of the Governing Council of UNDP, the regional commissions and the Population Commission all at the same session, and that it should give priority attention to population issues. They also supported the various proposals concerning the exchange of information and reports among the various bodies dealing with population matters. The Governing Council of UNDP should devote greater attention to UNFPA issues in view of the complexity of the Fund's programme. The resource base of UNFPA should be further strengthened and broadened and, in view of the responsibility of the Fund as the most important source of financing for population activities in the United Nations system, further attention should be given to the relationship between UNFPA and the executing agencies in order to promote adequate co-ordination and co-operation. The recommendation that the field presence of UNFPA should be reinforced should be dealt with in the Governing Council of UNDP rather than in the Economic and Social Council. It was to be hoped that the latter would take decisions at the current session on some of the report's conclusions and recommendations, particularly those relating to the organization of its own work on population matters. Some recommendations should be referred to the Governing Council of UNDP for further consideration and others should be promptly dealt with by the Secretary-General, who should ensure effective co-operation between the various United Nations bodies and organs dealing with population matters.

4. Mr. WILLIS (United Kingdom) said that the report addressed a number of important issues designed to improve the United Nations system's handling of population questions, a subject to which his delegation attached great importance. Its sensible recommendations represented a helpful first step in rationalizing and co-ordinating work on that subject. In particular, he welcomed the decision to place emphasis to the improvement of co-ordination rather than on structural change; the recognition that the review and monitoring of population trends and policies should remain separate from technical co-operation activities; the encouragement to the Economic and Social Council to take a closer interest in population issues; the reference to the importance of improving the flow of information between the Population Commission and the Governing Council of UNDP; and the proposals that the Governing Council should devote five full days to the affairs of UNFPA and that a small working group should be established to examine UNFPA matters.

5. Although the Economic and Social Council had requested, in its resolution 1985/4, an assessment of the performance, achievements and effectiveness of the work of the United Nations system, no such assessment had been provided in the report. The low level of response from Member States was to be

regretted, as was the non-availability of the current in-depth evaluation of the United Nations population programme. It was very difficult to consider the question of change, or even of co-ordination, without an assessment of the compatibility between current activities and the needs of donors and recipients. Co-ordination, meanwhile, should be seen as a means of improving programme implementation and of eliminating wasteful duplication, in such a way as to benefit all members of the United Nations system. There was a need to formalize co-ordination in institutional structures. There must be consultation and interaction between the different United Nations bodies dealing with population, each of which had a mandate and a defined role, although not at the expense of the competitive tension arising from the interplay of separate bodies. In view of the need for effective machinery for co-ordination, his delegation fully supported the basic conclusions reached in paragraph 66 of the report.

6. As far as the general principles which should govern co-ordination in the population sector were concerned, his delegation favoured an increase in the use of expert advice, an expansion of the exchange of ideas between Governments and the various parts of the United Nations system, and the establishment of machinery which would permit a rational and effective use of existing work procedures for the benefit of all parts of the system. The recommendations made in the report were essentially sound in emphasizing the need to improve the co-ordination of work in the population sector by the Economic and Social Council and the Population Commission. The recommendation in paragraph 68 (a) of the report should be linked with a further recommendation to the effect that the Population Commission should review and comment on the work plan of UNFPA. The comments of the Commission should be made available to the Economic and Social Council through the Governing Council of UNDP. With reference to the recommendation in paragraph 68 (b), a detailed review of population issues as a priority theme, with the full involvement of the specialized agencies and in the presence of experts from individual Governments, could contribute to a better understanding of the problems and lead to helpful suggestions. His delegation supported all four recommendations made in paragraph 71 of the report. It also welcomed the general principle contained in paragraph 74 (a). With respect to paragraphs 74 (d) and (f), more detail would be welcome on the manner in which existing arrangements might be improved, and further information on the contents of paragraph 74 (e) would be appreciated in due course. The proposals contained in paragraph 73 (e) were sensible and modest. With respect to paragraph 73 (f), it was important to maintain the co-ordinating role of the UNDP resident representatives, whose offices constituted an effective mechanism for field-level co-ordination. Paragraph 74 (g) did not make it clear how the necessary changes would be effected. The recommendations relating to collaboration with non-governmental organizations were worth while, and such co-ordination and discussions should include the International Planned Parenthood Federation.

7. His delegation was convinced of the importance of the work of UNFPA and believed that the Fund's existing mandate was both adequate and appropriate. However, with reference to paragraph 73 (d) of the report, it was important that the Governing Council

of UNDP should give thorough consideration to the extent to which UNFPA was responsive to the needs of recipient countries. With regard to paragraph 73 (c), it would seem more appropriate to state that the executing agencies should make full use of the expertise and specialized knowledge accumulated by UNFPA.

8. Mr. GORAJEWSKI (Poland) said that population policies had to be formulated by each nation in accordance with its own objectives and needs, but with the support of an international community that recognized the importance of peace, security and disarmament in implementing population policies geared to social and economic development.

9. Population problems could be solved only within the context of proper planning to overcome economic obstacles. His country had acquired experience in that field which could be useful to other countries, especially developing ones, and particularly in such areas as family planning, the use of contraceptives and health care programmes.

10. He favoured strengthening the work of the United Nations in the field of population by enhancing coherence and complementarity in the functioning of the existing bodies rather than by premature efforts to effect institutional consolidation which would involve wasting time on organizational matters to the detriment of co-operation and might even interfere with some activities currently being carried out by United Nations bodies.

11. The Council's consideration of population questions could be deferred to its second regular session, at which time they could be considered within the context of overall economic and social development, but for the time being it was unnecessary to consider them as a separate priority item. A better flow of information on the work of the different bodies dealing with population questions was also necessary for the sake of efficiency, and a comprehensive approach should be taken whereby the United Nations would consider the population problems of developed countries without losing sight of the special needs of the developing ones, which could benefit greatly from projects and programmes being implemented in the former. His delegation was very much concerned in that connection with efforts to reduce the scope of UNFPA activities in Europe.

12. On the subject of co-ordination, he said that greater efforts should be made to utilize more efficiently the capacities and expertise available in each unit of the Secretariat so as to enhance the quality of output. He particularly welcomed the proposed measures to improve joint planning and programming and the delivery of technical co-operation activities and would also welcome greater involvement of national non-governmental organizations in promoting population activities.

13. Mr. SAFRONCHUK (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that in his country population policy was an integral part of social policy and was formulated within the context of efforts to promote development and improve living standards. In no country could social and economic development plans be implemented without peace, and the Soviet Union supported the establishment of a comprehensive system of international economic security as an integral part of overall international security. It was unfortunate that the Secretary-General's report (E/1986/18-A/41/179) ignored the link between popu-

lation and peace, which had been clearly established at the International Conference on Population, held at Mexico City, and in the relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council itself.

Mr. Malik (India), Vice-President, took the Chair.

14. He supported the recommendations in paragraphs 65 and 66 of the report because the existing organizational structure ensured objectivity and independence in evaluating population trends and the effectiveness of population policies. The recommendation in paragraph 68 (a) deserved careful study, but for the time being he feared that implementing it might delay the Council's consideration of the report of the Population Commission. The recommendation in paragraph 68 (b) was unjustified because population issues were less pressing than many other social and economic problems considered by the Council.

15. He supported the proposal in paragraph 70, because it would make the Population Commission more effective, as well as the measures recommended in paragraph 71, because fuller consideration by the Governing Council of UNDP of the results of the discussions in the Commission when it considered the work of UNFPA would improve the programme activity of the Fund. The exchange of information between the Population Commission and the Governing Council should be improved, possibly by preparing the relevant reports on the work of UNFPA for each session of the Commission and through the participation of a Fund representative in the Commission's work. In co-ordinating the work of UNFPA it must be kept in mind that the Governing Council of UNDP was not competent to consider the Fund's substantive activities.

16. He had no objection to the strengthening of the role of the regional commissions, as recommended in paragraph 72. A useful approach would be to prepare periodically a joint plan of operations for the central, regional and specialized bodies of the United Nations for consideration by the Population Commission, which would, at the same time, review the execution of the plan in the previous period.

Mr. Dos Santos (Mozambique) resumed the Chair.

17. In connection with paragraph 73, he said he could not agree to any proposal which might involve using resources from the United Nations regular budget to meet the needs of UNFPA. He was astonished at the assertion in paragraph 74 (d) that responsibility for co-ordinating United Nations activities in the field of population rested with the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs. To his knowledge, that Department only prepared reports on the existing situation and did not constitute machinery for the co-ordination of operational activities. Also, the broadening of the co-ordinating functions of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC) proposed in paragraph 74 (e) would be superfluous if the proposal made in paragraph 70 to strengthen the role of the Population Commission was implemented.

18. Lastly, the strengthening of co-operation between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations referred to in paragraph 75 could be achieved with extrabudgetary resources and by greater involvement of the Population Division of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs.

19. Mr. BASTIAN (German Democratic Republic) said that his delegation supported the approach taken in the Secretary-General's report (E/1986/18-A/41/179). Population problems affected social and economic development, particularly in the developing countries, and, since they could be resolved only within the context of other economic, social and political factors, his country advocated a co-ordinated approach by the entire United Nations system. His delegation therefore endorsed the conclusions in paragraphs 66 and 67 of the report and regarded the Council as the competent organ to strengthen the co-operation of all the relevant parts of the United Nations system in dealing with population policy.

20. He fully agreed with paragraphs 30 and 52 of the report and, in connection with paragraph 52, said that his delegation supported the position that substantive population questions should be dealt with by the Population Commission. His delegation also had no difficulty with the recommendation in paragraph 68 (a).

21. Developing countries should be provided with technical assistance on population policy more effectively by increased co-operation with WHO, UNESCO, UNICEF and ILO. The emphasis should be on training qualified indigenous personnel and on proposing and implementing appropriate solutions through such means as theoretical courses, seminars and workshops. United Nations activities should be complementary to national population policy measures and subordinated to the economic, social, cultural and political particularities of the country concerned. Non-governmental organizations could help provide technical assistance on population policy on the condition that the recipient country consented to their involvement.

22. Mr. RUÍZ-CABAÑAS (Observer for Mexico) said that the main issue was how to strengthen international co-operation in the field of population, particularly within the United Nations system. In that connection, the recommendations contained in the Secretary-General's report were very appropriate. The functions of research and analysis should continue to be separate from the funding and executing functions; however, it was also necessary to promote greater exchange of information between the departments responsible for those functions and the bodies to which they were answerable, namely, the Population Commission and the Governing Council of UNDP.

23. There was urgent need to strengthen the capacity of UNFPA to provide assistance by significantly increasing its resources. The Governing Council of UNDP should give greater attention to UNFPA issues and his delegation supported the recommendations in paragraph 71.

24. His Government attached great importance to population matters and had included population policy as an integral part of its development policy even prior to the United Nations World Population Conference in 1974 at Bucharest. Its population growth rate had dropped from 3.6 per cent in the early 1970s to 2.1 per cent.

25. Mr. WIRYONO (Indonesia) said it was encouraging to note that significant progress had been made in implementing the World Population Plan of Action adopted at Bucharest and the recommendations of the International Conference on Population, held at Mexico City 10 years later.

26. Indonesia considered population control to be an essential component of development and it welcomed the admission, in paragraph 43 of the report of the Secretary-General (E/1986/18-A/41/179), that the co-operation of the international community was needed in order to solve such crucial population problems as changes in population structure, intolerable mortality rates, migration and urbanization.

27. His delegation recognized that the managerial problems encountered in the population programmes and projects reflected conditions not only in the recipient countries but also in the work of UNFPA and the executing agencies. It hoped that the growing improvement in programming signified that support for UNFPA was becoming more systematic.

28. Indonesia attached great significance to the work of UNFPA and was convinced that the Fund should be provided with the resources it needed to carry out its mandate. The contribution of the United Nations system to population activities could be further strengthened by enhancing coherence and complementarity in the functions of the organizations concerned. His delegation had noted the comments made in paragraphs 65 and 66 concerning the consolidation of the diverse population activities. It endorsed the view expressed in paragraph 66 of the report that existing institutions and arrangements should be strengthened and improved and that more effective interaction should be secured between them. His delegation saw merit in the other recommendations and would like to examine them thoroughly.

29. Mr. KANEKO (Japan) said that his Government attached great importance to the population activities of the United Nations system and considered that the research and analysis carried out by the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs provided a sound basis for the population activities of the United Nations and of governmental and non-governmental organizations.

30. He announced that Japan would contribute an amount of \$US 45,930,000 to UNFPA for 1986, including an earmarked contribution for the International Planned Parenthood Federation.

31. The report of the Secretary-General identified several interesting points for discussion. Concerning the role of the Economic and Social Council, he said that the Council should review the recommendations of the International Conference on Population²⁰ and should continue to discuss ways of enhancing the work of the United Nations system in the field of population. In that connection, he supported the recommendation in paragraph 68 (a). On the subject of co-ordination, he said that a continuous flow of information was essential between the bodies and organizations active in the field of population in order to strengthen co-ordination of the population activities of the United Nations system.

32. His delegation agreed with the Secretary-General that greater efforts should be made to utilize the expertise available in each entity. In that connection, it could go along with paragraph 74 (d), which pointed out that the operational experience acquired by UNFPA over the years could continue to be

²⁰See Report of the International Conference on Population, 1984, Mexico City, 6-14 August 1984 (E/CONF.76/19 and Corr. 1 and 3) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.XIII.8 and corrigenda).

utilized by other relevant entities of the United Nations.

33. He expressed the hope that the review which was to be conducted in accordance with General Assembly resolution 40/177 would be comprehensive and substantive. Improvements needed to be made in the existing machinery of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination with a view to ensuring that it was utilized in the best possible manner.

34. He expressed some concern at the comments in paragraph 71 of the report for, while appreciating the difficulties which the Governing Council of UNDP faced because of time constraints, it would be more appropriate to await the results of the discussion of UNFPA issues at the forthcoming session of the Governing Council. He did not see any merit in establishing a small working group as suggested in paragraph 71 (d).

35. His delegation fully shared the views expressed by the United Kingdom on paragraphs 73 (c) and (d).

36. His delegation reaffirmed its commitment to the implementation of the recommendations of the International Conference on Population.²⁰ His Government would make a financial contribution to the symposium on population and development which was to be held as a follow-up to the Conference.

37. Mr. SANCHEZ (Philippines) said that the population question had become a national priority in most countries, as reflected in the increase of public expenditure on population programmes. Government activities also reflected an awareness of the linkages between population issues and the broader aspects of development. While population programmes had been successful, the need for international assistance in dealing with the population problem continued unabated. It was imperative that the Council should study the various activities of its many organs in depth to determine how best to co-ordinate them.

38. In that connection, his delegation would like some clarification of the statement made in paragraph 65 of the report (E/1986/18-A/41/179) that although the proposal to consolidate the diverse activities of the United Nations in the field of population appeared to be cost-efficient it did not appear to be feasible.

39. His delegation wholeheartedly endorsed the recommendation that the population question should be considered at the second regular session of the Council and that population issues should be considered as a priority theme at one of the plenary meetings of the Council. It supported the recommendations in paragraphs 70 (a), (b) and (c), which were designed to improve co-ordination between the Population Commission and UNFPA and to give the Commission comprehensive information on population activities.

40. It supported the proposals in paragraph 71 for improving the flow of information between the Governing Council of UNDP and the Population Commission. The suggestion that the Governing Council should devote more time to UNFPA issues deserved support. In that connection, it might be useful to consider the possibility of UNFPA distributing its documentation well in advance of the Governing Council session and conducting informal consultations so as to facilitate agreement and avoid lengthy discussions on the subject.

41. His delegation supported the Secretary-General's call for further strengthening of the resource base of UNFPA through increased voluntary contributions.

42. Miss FRANKINET (Belgium) said that the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General (E/1986/18-A/41/179) generally had the right thrust. While there were advantages in maintaining separate funding and executing functions her delegation regretted that no details had been given of the reasoning which had led to the conclusion that consolidation of the separate functions was not feasible.

43. Her delegation supported the recommendations contained in paragraph 68 for it had long wanted the Council to have a greater role in proposing policies to the General Assembly. However, it believed that the Council should give priority to population issues only as necessity dictated.

44. Her delegation could support the recommendations contained in paragraphs 70 (a), (b) and (c). However, instead of receiving a review of the activities of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, the Population Commission should receive a report from the Executive Director of the Fund. Her delegation could support the recommendations contained in paragraphs 71 (a), (b) and (c). However, given the mandate of the Population Commission, it felt that reports of the Commission should be referred to the Governing Council through the Economic and Social Council. They could be the biennial reports of the Commission to the Council. Her delegation saw no merit in establishing a small working group as recommended in paragraph 71 (d). However, it felt that all organizational matters should be discussed within the framework of the Governing Council.

45. Concerning the regional commissions, her delegation would have preferred to see a more neutral wording of paragraph 72 (a). For example, it could read "Regional commissions should co-ordinate the activities . . .".

46. Paragraph 73 (a) should be redrafted to read "The resource base of UNFPA should be geared to the assistance needs of the developing countries". Concerning paragraph 73 (f), her delegation was not convinced that the field presence of UNFPA needed to be reinforced, but it was in favour of improved representation through the resident co-ordinators of UNDP. Co-ordination was not dependent upon improved representation in the field.

47. Paragraph 74 dealt with co-ordination. The recommendations on that aspect were very important, though they needed to be clarified and made more precise. For example, the references to UNFPA field offices and to the field staff network were superfluous. In her view, the inter-agency consultative meetings should not be convened only by UNFPA. If policy matters needed to be considered, the meetings could be convened by the United Nations. The Administrative Committee on Co-ordination should confine itself to matters of co-ordination rather than substance. The Council was the appropriate forum for dealing with issues arising from the interdisciplinary nature of population, not ACC.

48. Ms. FANG Ping (China) noted that, with the growing awareness of the population problem, popu-

lation activities had been given increased prominence in the United Nations.

49. Referring to paragraph 74, she agreed that more effective interaction among the United Nations agencies would reinforce international co-operation in the field of population. The Economic and Social Council had primary responsibility for co-ordinating work in the field of population, and the question of co-ordination should be taken up in its Third (Programme and Co-ordination) Committee at the second regular session of the Council.

50. The Governing Council of UNDP should be given adequate time to review the work of UNFPA, and should be able to follow a flexible schedule.

51. Her country hoped that the developed countries would give more financial support to UNFPA. In any case, the Fund should make the most of its limited resources by drawing on the technology and professional expertise available within the United Nations system.

52. China, with its large population, had successfully co-ordinated its population policy and its policy of economic development. It was prepared to continue its co-operation with United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations in solving the world population problem.

53. Mr. MATELJAK (Yugoslavia) noted that the current financial crisis had made it more urgent to co-ordinate the activities of United Nations bodies, organizations and agencies in the field of population.

54. His country agreed in principle with the recommendations contained in the Secretary-General's report (E/1986/18-A/41/179), but considered it as only one phase in a continuous process. In that connection, he advised against the creation of any new legislative bodies to deal with population programmes at that juncture.

55. The Economic and Social Council should pay special attention to policy issues regarding population, with a view to submitting appropriate recommendations to the General Assembly. Yugoslavia supported the call to strengthen UNFPA with, among other things, increased contributions. The Governing Council of UNDP should devote a sufficient number of meetings at its regular session to consideration of the operational activities funded by UNFPA. Moreover, UNFPA would have to adapt to the current financial crisis and be more responsive to the needs of countries in Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

56. The United Nations Secretariat should have a greater role in monitoring population trends and policies, and in reviewing and appraising the World Population Plan of Action.²¹ Further, inter-agency co-ordination in the field of population should rest with ACC. Consequently, the role of ACC should be described more precisely in paragraph 74 (e) of the report which, he assumed, had been drafted in the light of General Assembly resolution 40/177 on co-ordination in the United Nations and the United Nations system.

57. Non-governmental organizations, because of their flexibility and innovative approach, should continue to play an important role in operational activities and research. In that connection, the meaning of the term "critical" in paragraph 75 (c) was unclear. While acknowledging the importance of the

non-governmental organizations, he none the less failed to understand why they were "critical".

58. Paragraph 74 (b) also needed clarification. He wondered whether "co-ordination of action by donor countries" meant that the needs of developing countries should be taken into account, or whether it had another meaning. Mobilization of resources to assist developing countries was particularly critical, given the current international economic situation.

59. Mr. KHIZHNYAK (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic) said that the Secretary-General's report did not sufficiently reflect certain important positions that had emerged from the Mexico City Conference, which had stressed that population problems could be solved only within the context of peace and security. The report should have stressed the importance of co-operation between governmental, non-governmental and international organizations in promoting peace and security and in studying the impact of the arms race, international tension and military actions on population problems. The report should also have stressed the link between population policy and social and economic development instead of skirting the issue or simplifying it as it did in paragraph 6.

60. The co-ordination of population activities in the United Nations should be further improved by strengthening co-operation with the regional commissions. A joint plan of operations should be prepared periodically for the central, regional and centralized bodies of the United Nations, to be considered first by ACC and then by the Population Commission, which would at the same time review the execution of the plan for the previous period. As for UNFPA, he would recommend that it devote greater attention to providing aid to the developing countries on matters relating to the linkages between population factors and social and economic development plans and programmes.

61. His own country's population policy was designed to ensure steady population growth and was an integral part of social and economic development plans designed to promote the well-being of the entire population. Its social and economic structure made it possible for economic growth to surpass population growth.

62. Mr. MALIK (India), reaffirming the importance of population activities and family welfare in his own country, stressed that the role of the United Nations system could not conflict with the sovereign right of each nation to set its own population policies. Referring to the last sentence of paragraph 27 of the Secretary-General's report, he suggested that consensus was not necessarily the only means of achieving co-ordination. Moreover, in some cases, activities were not being fully co-ordinated and efforts were being duplicated.

63. The bulk of the report consisted of background information on United Nations involvement in population activities. He would have preferred a more detailed analysis, including justification for the compartmentalization of activities. He noted that the entire subject had been given short shrift in paragraph 66, which only mentioned the "obvious advantages" of maintaining separate activities.

64. Referring to the responsibility of Governments themselves in determining population policies, which was the subject of paragraph 46 of the report, he stressed that countries such as India would benefit

²¹ Report of the United Nations World Population Conference, Bucharest, 19-30 August 1974 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.XIII.3, chap. I).

from international and multilateral assistance, particularly in the area of research.

65. In short, without more analytical details, India could make no determination as to whether or not improved co-ordination among United Nations bodies was required.

66. He was also interested in the extent to which a more active role by the regional commissions would benefit a country such as his, an aspect that had been treated very briefly in the report.

67. In the light of the financial difficulties confronting the United Nations, he had reservations about extending the 1986 session of the Governing Council of UNDP.

68. Mrs. GREGORY (Canada) said that Canada was particularly pleased with paragraphs 65 and 66, on maintaining distinct United Nations entities, of the Secretary-General's report. Her country favoured better co-ordination among those bodies and endorsed the proposals made to that end.

69. Canada would like to see greater communication between the Population Commission and the Governing Council of UNDP, but did not support an extension of the latter's session. In that connection, the arrangements made at the organizational session of UNDP in February were perfectly adequate.

70. The report could serve as a basis for dealing with population issues. She noted with pleasure that it included recommendations to which Canada attached importance. She expressed the hope that the Secretariat would be able at the current session to clarify some of the paragraphs in the report on which questions had been raised so as to facilitate preparations for further discussion of population activities by the General Assembly.

71. Miss COURSON (France) said that the Secretary-General had been realistic in not recommending fundamental structural changes and in emphasizing instead interaction between existing institutions.

72. The roles of the main bodies and units concerned should be clearly defined with the Population Commission acting as co-ordinator and the Population Division overseeing research, in co-operation with the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development.

73. Since UNFPA was supposed to deal exclusively with operational questions, her delegation understood that any strengthening of the Fund's activities would be in the area of administrative and financial

management, which had come under valid criticism at the most recent session of the Governing Council of UNDP. The latter should therefore devote four days, rather than two, at its forthcoming session to the consideration of UNFPA activities.

74. The Population Division should continue to play a central role in research projects, based on the operational experience of UNFPA, conducted by the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs.

75. Concerning information and inter-agency co-ordination, France recommended that the Population Division should prepare reports on the world population situation with a view to informing the public of the principal population indicators and the major programmes financed by UNFPA. The Division might also prepare a report providing an overview of all United Nations activities in the field of population, similar to the report presented at the Bucharest Conference in 1974. Lastly, the Population Division should draft a report on the population activities of non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations. The latter two reports should be organized by topic rather than by country.

76. UNFPA might prepare a report on the programmes it financed, which should be general in nature, as it would not be discussed by the Population Commission.

77. Beyond endorsing the recommendations on inter-agency co-ordination in paragraph 74, her country favoured the establishment of working groups, modelled on the one which had been established to provide follow-up to the International Conference on Population and composed of representatives of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs and UNFPA, along with representatives of the various United Nations agencies concerned, to ensure co-ordination and co-operation on specific population issues.

78. In order to enable the Economic and Social Council better to discharge its co-ordinating function, population questions should be taken up at its second regular session, at which point it would have reports from the Population Commission and the Governing Council of UNDP.

The meeting rose at 6.10 p.m.

12th meeting

Thursday, 8 May 1986, at 10.25 a.m.

President: Mr. Manuel DOS SANTOS (Mozambique)

E/1986/SR.12

AGENDA ITEM 7

Population questions (*continued*) (E/1986/18-A/41/179)

1. Mr. CHOWDHURY (Bangladesh) said that, for obvious reasons, Bangladesh took an active interest in population questions and had closely followed the

process of implementation of General Assembly resolution 39/228, particularly paragraph 13. His delegation had consistently emphasized the need for close consultations with interested delegations with regard to the preparatory stage of the Secretary-General's report on the follow-up to that resolution. While appreciating the efforts of the Secretariat to keep delegations informed about the progress in the

preparation of the report that the Council had before it (E/1986/18-A/41/179), Bangladesh believed that such efforts did not constitute substantive consultations. The number of responses received from countries to the Secretariat's communication concerning the preparation of the report had been extremely limited and totally unrepresentative of the views of the developing countries. Consequently, the report did not appropriately reflect their concerns.

2. The descriptive sections of the report relating, *inter alia*, to the evolution of population activities in the United Nations and the administration of population programmes clearly indicated the need for greater co-ordination within the United Nations system. The 1984 International Conference on Population had marked a turning-point in international co-operation on population issues. Its recommendations,²⁰ particularly the recommendation relating to the strengthening of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA), had important implications for the United Nations system, in particular those aspects related to institutional and legislative arrangements.

3. In paragraph 65 of the report, mention was made of the establishment of "a separate and identifiable entity" which would combine the functions of research and analysis, data collection, financing and implementation of technical co-operation and the monitoring and evaluation of programmes and projects. The Secretary-General believed that such an entity would be cost-efficient and effective. While his delegation would have liked a specific recommendation from the Secretary-General on the establishment of such an entity, it nevertheless strongly supported the basic premise that its establishment would be cost-efficient and effective.

4. The International Conference on Population, held at Mexico City, had offered a tremendous opportunity to strengthen international co-operation in the field of population, and it was regrettable that the conclusions and recommendations contained in the Secretary-General's report had failed to seize that opportunity. The recommendations were of a procedural and general nature and attempted to preserve the existing arrangements. It was unacceptable that Conference recommendation 83,²⁰ relating to the strengthening of UNFPA, had not been appropriately focused upon.

5. The report mentioned that the resource base of UNFPA should be strengthened to meet the increasing needs of the developing countries. Nothing had been said, however, about how that could be done. UNFPA funded about 85 per cent of the population activities of the United Nations. Those programmes should be funded instead through the regular budget of the United Nations, thereby releasing much-needed resources for UNFPA to support programmes in developing countries. As a result of increased efforts to promote awareness of population issues throughout the world, particularly in the context of the recent phenomenon of adverse propaganda about family planning in certain countries, it would be possible to attract additional resources for population activities in general and for UNFPA in particular.

6. As the largest source of multilateral assistance for population activities, UNFPA would play a leading role in putting into effect the Mexico City Declaration on Population and Development,²⁰ as well as the recommendations²⁰ of the International Conference

on Population. His delegation would therefore like to propose that, in addition to the recommendations contained in the Secretary-General's report, the Economic and Social Council should make five recommendations. First, the United Nations should absorb the activities currently funded through extra-budgetary resources into its regular budget, thereby releasing such resources for population problems. Additional importance should also be attached to the promotion of awareness of population issues throughout the world, in order to attract more support for multilateral population activities, as well as additional resources. Secondly, UNFPA's role in the implementation of the World Population Plan of Action²⁰ and the recommendations²⁰ of the Mexico City Conference should be stressed. Thirdly, the mandate of UNFPA in new areas, such as the integration of population in development planning, migration, urbanization, and youth and aging should be clearly established. Fourthly, the Governing Council of UNDP should hold a separate session to discuss UNFPA matters. Fifthly, for better implementation, as well as monitoring and evaluation of UNFPA programmes at the country level, there should be separate UNFPA resident representatives at that level.

7. His delegation attached great importance to the issue of co-ordination both within the United Nations system and at the national level. The population activities of the United Nations should focus primarily on population programmes in developing countries. All other activities relating to population matters should be oriented to support such programmes. Under the existing arrangements, the relevant intergovernmental bodies, such as the Population Commission, the Governing Council of UNDP and the regional commissions, were not in a position to arrive at valid, coherent and well-co-ordinated conclusions on population issues. Immediate and effective measures should be taken to redress that situation. While the recommendations of the Secretary-General had attempted to address the question of the interplay between the monitoring of population policies and the monitoring of multilateral population programmes, those recommendations were inadequate to remove the anomalies existing in the current arrangements. The Secretary-General should therefore continue to keep under review the overall question in the context of the implementation of the recommendations proposed in his report, and should make additional recommendations for further improving the handling of population issues within the United Nations system. The exercise envisaged in General Assembly resolution 39/228 had a longer-term perspective, and the Secretary-General should therefore be authorized to continue to be seized of the question so that appropriate intergovernmental bodies, particularly the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, would be in a position to take the required decisions. It would also be useful for population questions to be discussed annually at the second regular session of the Council. Priority should be given to consideration of the question of population during the second regular session of 1987.

8. Mr. TETTAMANTI (Argentina) noted that the report of the Secretary-General (E/1986/18-A/41/179) considered the overall response of the United Nations system to the question of population. That was a good approach. With regard to UNFPA, however, the report should have provided more

details about how the Fund would discharge its responsibilities. It would be able to make a positive contribution to developing countries if it was permitted to address all the questions raised at the International Conference on Population.

9. The World Population Plan of Action affirmed that the principal objective of social, economic and cultural development, of which population goals and policies were integral parts, was to improve the standards of living and quality of life of the people. Achieving that objective required co-ordinated action in population in all socio-economic fields; thus population trends must be co-ordinated with economic and social development trends. In helping to achieve that co-ordination, the World Population Plan of Action should become an essential component of the system of international strategies for the promotion of economic development, the quality of life, human rights and fundamental freedoms. The Plan of Action should be sufficiently flexible to adapt to the varying conditions in different countries. In that regard, his delegation wished to acknowledge the valuable work of UNFPA in such areas as internal and international migration, aging, and the preparation of population statistics.

10. With regard to the recommendations of the report itself, Argentina believed that it was not the right time to introduce fundamental structural changes in the way in which the system operated. While it might be useful to deal with the question of population during the second regular session of the Council within the wider context of the growth and development of the world economy, the decision as to whether priority would be given to that subject depended on a specific debate in the Council on the selection of priority items for specific sessions. It might also be useful for the Governing Council of UNDP to receive information from the Population Commission when it took up population questions. Consideration might be given to the possibility of co-ordinating the programme of work on population questions between the plenary Governing Council and its Budget and Finance Committee. Problems relating to the consideration of population questions were not due to a lack of time, and the solution would therefore not be to extend the plenary meetings to the detriment of the consideration of other equally important agenda items. Furthermore, his delegation did not think that another small working group should be established to deal with that or any other question to be considered by the Governing Council.

11. Generally speaking, his delegation supported the conclusions concerning the Population Commission, the regional commissions and UNFPA itself.

12. Mr. ARCE-ROJAS (Colombia) said that initially the population activities of the United Nations had been limited to the collection of data, training of personnel, publication of research studies, and organization of seminars and conferences on "population questions". Since the establishment of UNFPA, the activities of the United Nations in the area of population had rapidly increased. The Bucharest Conference in 1974 had explicitly recognized the close link between economic and social development and population problems. There were countries which, after achieving all their economic development objectives, had been unable to improve the quality of life of their inhabitants owing to unmanageable increases in population.

13. His delegation was concerned that neither the report of the Secretary-General nor the Council had before it (E/1986/18-A/41/179) nor the one entitled "In-depth evaluation of the population programme" that he had submitted to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination at its twenty-sixth session (E/AC.51/1986/9) contained all the information which the Council and the General Assembly would wish to have on the evolution of population activities, particularly, statistics on projected population increases throughout the world. A step could be taken towards the achievement of such basic objectives by monitoring population growth in various parts of the world.

14. United Nations population activities clearly had a positive effect when they involved national programmes that took into account the idiosyncrasies of particular peoples. The great merit of the United Nations had been its respect for all beliefs and opinions on the subject of population, and the fact that it had not forced peoples to accept programmes which they were unwilling to accept.

15. His country strongly supported the activities of UNFPA. Even though the possibility of reducing certain budgets and programmes was being envisaged, the activities of UNFPA should be increased since, without such activities, many countries would not be able to proceed with their population programmes. UNFPA was poised to increase the scope of its activities, and egoism or indifference should not make that effort go to waste thus robbing humanity of assistance which was vital for its very stability and for the improvement of the standard of living of people everywhere.

16. The number of older people in the population would continue to increase in the years ahead. It was estimated that, in the year 2025, 14 per cent of the population of the underdeveloped countries and 23 per cent of the population of the developed countries would be over 60 years of age. Those demographic changes would be associated with a decline in fertility, which would reduce population growth and lead to a significant increase in the proportion of older people. His country strongly supported the participation of the United Nations system in the effort to resolve that problem, which would have economic, social and humanitarian consequences. It therefore welcomed the revision and expansion of the International Plan of Action on Aging.²²

17. Mr. HANTKE (Federal Republic of Germany) said that although the Secretary-General's report (E/1986/18-A/41/179) had been useful since it described the current structure of the United Nations system relating to the formulation and administration of population policies, it did not contain a thorough assessment of the performance of the various United Nations organs which dealt with population issues. It was, nevertheless, an initial step leading to the improved utilization of resources devoted to the population sector.

18. His delegation agreed with the conclusion expressed in paragraph 66 of the report, that no fundamental structural changes were required. There was a need, however, to streamline the administrative structure.

²² See *Report of the World Assembly on Aging, Vienna, 26 July-6 August 1982* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.I.16), chap. VI, sect. A.

19. With regard to paragraph 68 (a), he saw merit in the proposal that population questions should be considered at the second regular session of the Council. However, while he agreed with the recommendations contained in paragraph 70, he felt that the measures envisaged therein should have been instituted already. His delegation welcomed the general intention to improve the flow of information between the Governing Council of UNDP and the Population Commission, reflected in paragraph 71 of the report. The arrangement proposed in paragraph 71 (c) was not appropriate, however, since it was important to maintain the flexibility of the work of the Governing Council. It might be useful for the plenary Governing Council, when dealing with UNFPA matters, to know in advance the position of its Budget and Finance Committee.

20. It was his delegation's understanding that the regional commissions were not sufficiently involved in the discussion and co-ordination of population activities. The co-ordinating role referred to in paragraph 72 (a) was not being fulfilled, particularly with respect to the activities of the specialized agencies. The co-ordination of United Nations inputs at the country level must be ensured through the resident representatives. It would have been useful if paragraph 72 had clearly indicated the distribution of tasks at the regional and national levels.

21. His delegation welcomed the recommendation in paragraph 73 of the report that action to strengthen the activities of UNFPA should be undertaken within its existing mandate. He felt that there should be an exchange between the United Nations and UNFPA of the technical and professional expertise referred to in paragraph 73 (c). As that subparagraph was worded, it put the cart before the horse. His delegation considered that a reference to UNICEF was lacking in paragraph 73 (e), concerning the relationship between UNFPA and the executing agencies, and in paragraph 74, on co-ordination. The omission was regrettable since both agencies were funding organizations of the United Nations system. At the most recent session of the Executive Board of UNICEF, concern had been expressed about that lack of co-ordination between UNFPA and UNICEF on projects which involved both organizations. The recommendation in paragraph 73 (f) that the field presence of UNFPA should be reinforced should be viewed in the light of comments made in the Governing Council of UNDP to the effect that UNFPA should post its existing field personnel more effectively and concentrate them in countries with numerous projects.

22. On the subject of co-ordination, it seemed to be implied in paragraph 74 (c) that field representation of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development should be envisaged. His delegation was not in favour of such a suggestion. In general, however, it agreed with the recommendations on co-ordination contained in section D, especially with the general principle contained in paragraph 74 (a).

23. Mr. FLEMING (United States of America) said that the report (E/1986/18-A/41/179) was successful in presenting a concise history of the evolution of the various organizations in the United Nations system concerned with population activities and in promoting a better understanding of their mandates in that area. Nevertheless, after analysing the report, his delegation was more than ever concerned about duplication of effort. The United States did not

question the quality or complexity of the tasks being undertaken, but the report raised the spectre of proliferation. It presented the activities not only of the better-known organizations in the population field, but of other bodies also, including specialized agencies. While UNICEF had a clear mandate to provide information on birth-spacing, he wondered why other agencies should stray from their mandates and add to the confusion in the population arena.

24. His Government had traditionally provided over half of all international population assistance to the developing world. It had done so from one central office with some 30 to 40 professional staff and an equal number of specialists in the field and regional offices. Although he was not suggesting that that was the best organizational model, he questioned the position taken in paragraphs 65 and 66 of the report with regard to the feasibility of consolidation, specifically the statement that experience bore out the desirability of maintaining a distinction between research, funding and execution. His Government's experience was quite the opposite. In view of the financial constraints of the United Nations Secretariat, the issue must be re-examined in the light of the obvious functional overlap. If a rational plan were not devised, austerity measures might necessitate indiscriminate cut-backs.

25. With regard to the recommendations and conclusions contained in the report, his delegation agreed that more time needed to be allocated to UNFPA during the sessions of the Governing Council of UNDP. However, the number of days should not be specified: it was for the Governing Council to decide on its timetable. His delegation also agreed with the recommendation that information on the work of the Population Commission and the work of UNFPA should be exchanged in their respective governing bodies in order to improve co-ordination. The United States had reservations about the establishment of a standing working group to examine UNFPA issues; such issues might be an appropriate agenda item for the UNDP working group. Lastly, since the UNDP resident representatives were mandated to co-ordinate all United Nations operational activities in their respective regions, his delegation seriously questioned the role of the regional commissions in co-ordinating population activities and their relevance in a very crowded field.

26. Mr. LINDGREN (Brazil) said that population issues were currently considered to be essential elements in the development strategies and policies of Governments and multilateral institutions. Any misgivings relating to population questions and their consideration by multilateral institutions had been dispelled by an increased awareness of the indissoluble connection between demographic and other development variables, and by the adoption by the multilateral organizations of an even-handed and non-political approach to the subject. The continuing perception that the organizations were adopting such an approach was a determining factor for the support they received. The success of that approach should be measured by the organizations' ability to respond adequately to different problems in varying environments and cultures. The other factor influencing support for the population activities of the organizations was the degree of attention which States perceived as being paid to the issues with which they were concerned. It was therefore undesirable to narrow excessively the range of population activities.

On the other hand, there was a need to concentrate efforts and maximize efficiency. A balance between those two considerations must be achieved.

27. With regard to the financial difficulties, his delegation felt that it was counter-productive to attempt to make savings in areas relating to priority population issues, for example, family planning. Two other important issues which must continue to receive attention in the case of Latin America were population distribution and composition in the analysis of which the United Nations had contributed extensively. In that respect, he wished to highlight the continued support of UNFPA in funding research. The growing urgency of population problems in the region called for increased support by the United Nations system. His remarks were made in the context of requests to limit the activities undertaken by the United Nations system in general and UNFPA in particular.

28. His delegation considered it very important that the interrelationship between population and other development issues should be reflected in the institutional and operational arrangements of multilateral organizations. His delegation supported most of the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General (E/1986/18-A/41/179) which had taken that question into account. However, further consideration should be given to certain issues, especially the role within the United Nations system of each body concerned with population activities.

29. Mr. MANI (Director, Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation) stressed the importance he attached to the historical analysis contained in the report. In preparing the report, the members of the Secretariat had become aware of their ignorance of much of the enormous amount of work undertaken in the population field. An analysis of the history of such work had been undertaken, a condensed version of which appeared in section II of the Secretary-General's report. He hoped that the analysis could some day be issued as a document: it contained lessons for other economic and social sectors.

30. As was stated in paragraph 64 of the report, population was one of the fields of activity in which the contribution of the United Nations and the United Nations system had been notably effective. However, reference had been made to the duplication of efforts within the system. In that connection, he wished to point out that the field was a very complex one. Although some approaches might seem to duplicate others, that might not in fact be the case. He recalled that the report did not contain the first review of the programmes and policies of the United Nations organizations in the population field: a first review had been undertaken in 1983, on which the Secretary-General had reported in document E/1983/101.

31. He drew the attention of members of the Council to document E/AC.51/1986/9, an in-depth evaluation of population programmes made by the Secretary-General that was currently being considered by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC). That document should be considered together with the report of the Secretary-General that the Council had before it. In order to enable the Council to have all the necessary elements available to it in reaching a conclusion on population ques-

tions, the Secretary-General had suggested that that agenda item might be considered at the second regular session of the Council. At that time, the conclusions of CPC would be available together with the reports of the Governing Council of UNDP and of the regional commissions.

32. One of the criticisms made of the report (E/1986/18-A/41/179) was that it did not contain an adequate evaluation of the impact of population programmes and activities of the United Nations system as a whole. In the preparation of the report, an attempt had been made to obtain from organizations, by means of a questionnaire, guidelines for self-assessment of the performance, achievements and effectiveness of the system in that area. However, there had been inherent limitations in the exercise. Without in-depth research, which it was not possible to undertake in the context of the report, it had been impossible to ensure uniform reporting of activities. Nevertheless, he considered that self-assessment was an issue that could be examined on its own merits and one that might also be considered by CPC.

33. Another major issue that had been raised concerned the recommendation to establish an entity which would combine the functions described in paragraphs 65 and 66 of the report. While the merging of the funding and project-execution aspects of United Nations population activities was the subject of an ongoing debate, he did not believe that the establishment of such an entity would result in any overlapping of activities. The manner in which the research, funding and execution functions were to be co-ordinated while their individual identities were maintained was explained in subsequent paragraphs of the report.

34. Questions had been raised regarding the role of the regional commissions in United Nations population activities. The notion that the regional commissions should play a co-ordinating role had its origin in General Assembly resolution 32/197, on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system. Co-ordination was especially important in a broad field such as population.

35. All the commissions had population programmes which they sought to strengthen; they consequently required more than just extrabudgetary financing. Obviously, no one wanted to submit any proposals in that regard that would require an increase in the regular budget. However, if the suggestions listed in paragraph 72 were followed systematically, they would indeed enhance the Organization's population activities.

36. The words "by consensus" in paragraph 27 of the report referred to the consensus to be reached among the various organizations of the United Nations system that were active in the population field. If the Council wished to delete them, the substance of the paragraph would not be altered.

37. Several delegations had remarked that the report failed to address all the recommendations of the International Conference on Population.²⁰ As he had indicated at the preceding meeting in his statement introducing the Secretary-General's report, the report had endeavoured to respond to the request contained in paragraph 13 of General Assembly resolution 39/228, which referred to Conference recommendations 79 to 87, particularly recommendation 83.²⁰ Furthermore, the recommendations of the Secretary-

General had not been intended to change the mandate of bodies active in the population field.

38. Some delegations had suggested that the recommendations concerning co-ordination in paragraph 74 might have been simplified. However, the subject of co-ordination was a complex one, and all those recommendations, though somewhat detailed, had the potential to enhance the achievements of the United Nations in the field of population.

39. Mr. SINGH (United Nations Fund for Population Activities) drew attention to paragraph 71 of the Secretary-General's report. There seemed to be general agreement that the Governing Council of UNDP would benefit from a better understanding of the deliberations of the Population Commission. The Economic and Social Council might therefore wish to recommend that the report of the Population Commission should be submitted to the Governing Council. Delegations also appeared to be in agreement with the recommendations made in paragraphs 71 (b) and 71 (c). However, he did not think it would be necessary for the Economic and Social Council to specify the number of days that the Governing Council of UNDP should devote to issues relating to UNFPA. The Governing Council could determine that itself, bearing in mind the number and complexity of such issues before it in a given year. The recommendation in paragraph 71 (d) to establish a small working group to examine UNFPA issues was the result of a suggestion made by a Government, and would be most appropriately discussed at the forthcoming session of the Governing Council.

40. The recommendation in paragraph 73 (a) that the resource base of UNFPA should be further strengthened was intended to remind delegations that the primary function of UNFPA was to channel funds for population assistance to developing countries. The most obvious way of strengthening the Fund's resource base was by increasing voluntary contributions, a subject that would also be discussed at the thirty-third session of the Governing Council of UNDP. He agreed with those delegations that had called for a two-way exchange of technical and professional expertise between UNFPA and other United Nations bodies. In that connection, he suggested that paragraph 73 (c) of the report should be read in conjunction with paragraph 73 (d).

41. In response to the question raised by the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany, he noted that the term "executing agencies" in paragraph 73 (e) included UNICEF. Furthermore, the most recent session of the Executive Board of UNICEF indicated that additional opportunities for co-ordination between that agency and UNFPA might arise in the future. As for reinforcing the field presence of UNFPA, which was dealt with in paragraph 73 (f), it was incumbent upon the Governing Council of UNDP to set out the administrative and financial modalities of doing so as effectively as possible.

42. The "co-ordination of action by donor countries", referred to in paragraph 74 (b), would be planned around specific countries and regions; several *ad hoc* groups were already actively involved in that task. Finally, he noted that population was one field in which non-governmental organizations had a major role to play. Often it was those organizations which had identified areas for action well in advance

of Governments. Such innovative efforts should therefore be supported.

43. Mr. OMOTOSO (United Nations Development Programme), referring to the recommendations contained in paragraph 71 of the Secretary-General's report, said it would be possible for the Governing Council of UNDP to consider the report of the Population Commission in years when UNFPA was to submit a report to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly and when the Governing Council was not considering other funds and programmes under its supervision. With regard to the recommendation in paragraph 71 (d) to establish a working group to study UNFPA issues, it should be noted that several subsidiary bodies of the Governing Council already existed. The working group, which would be established on an experimental basis, must therefore take into account the agenda of those bodies. Moreover, the arrangements regarding UNFPA which the Governing Council had elaborated at its organizational session for 1986 should be allowed to evolve.

44. Mr. CHOWDHURY (Bangladesh) strongly supported the proposal to document the development of population activities within the United Nations: such an effort would have historical as well as practical value; furthermore, it ought to be possible to carry out that project within existing resources.

45. While the cross-organizational review of population activities in 1983 had been a useful exercise, it had been somewhat curtailed by the preparations for the International Conference on Population. The Secretariat should therefore continue that review. The in-depth evaluation of the population programme (E/AC.51/1986/9) was an important document, and it might be useful for the Council to participate in its consideration by CPC. He added that any programmes that had been successful should be provided with the additional resources they required; while the possibility of obtaining funds from sources outside the regular budget should be explored, it was important that such programmes should not be held hostage to the so-called "financial crisis" of the United Nations.

AGENDA ITEM 8

International co-operation in tax matters (E/1986/19)

46. Mr. WILLIS (United Kingdom) said that the work of the *Ad Hoc* Group of Experts on International Co-operation in Tax Matters had produced useful results over the years. Although recent work had concentrated on international co-operation to combat tax evasion and avoidance, his Government saw as equally important questions of discriminatory taxation and the promotion of international trade, investment and the transfer of technology by appropriate tax measures. Concentration on those issues was preferable to tasks such as the dissemination of information or requiring the Group to act in an advisory role.

47. With respect to the meeting held at Geneva in December 1985, insufficient time had elapsed since the introduction of the United Nations Model Double Taxation Convention between Developed and Developing Countries²³ for a review to be worth

²³United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.XVI.3.

while. A full review would be more appropriate towards the end of the decade.

48. Mr. KYRÖLÄINEN (Finland) said that the *Ad Hoc* Group of Experts had identified important questions for its future work, but emphasis should be placed on the practices of individual countries rather than on theoretical aspects. It should be possible for the experts to finalize the *Ad Hoc* Group's work programme within a four-year period.

AGENDA ITEM 1

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (*continued*)

CONVENTION ON THE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES OF THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES: DRAFT ANNEX RELATING TO THE UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (E/1986/45, E/1986/57, E/1986/75)

49. The PRESIDENT recalled that, at its 4th meeting, the Council, by its decision 1986/112, had postponed until its first regular session of 1986 consideration of the draft annex to the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies relating to the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, submitted by the Secretary-General in his note on the subject (E/1986/45, annex).

50. Mr. HANTKE (Federal Republic of Germany) said that the amendment (E/1986/57) to paragraph 1 (a) (iv) of the annex to document E/1986/45 had been submitted by his delegation to bring UNIDO into line with ILO, FAO, ICAO, IMO, WIPO and IFAD. The original wording of the paragraph was too general and would extend immunity to non-official papers.

51. Mr. SAFRONCHUK (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the wording proposed in document E/1986/45 should be retained, since the same formulation was used in the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies, with regard, in particular, to WHO, UPU, WMO and ITU. Acceptance of the amendment proposed in document E/1986/57 might mean that the same people would be governed by different legal régimes in different States, which would run counter to the General Assembly's aim of establishing uniformity in the privileges and immunities granted to the United Nations and the various agencies.

52. Paragraph 2 of the annex to document E/1986/45 should be expanded to include the families of Deputy Directors-General. It was a common practice to extend immunity to the families of senior officials. The addition of a phrase such as "and also his spouse and children" would suffice.

53. His delegation agreed that paragraph 3 of the annex should be deleted. The procedures provided

for in section 32 of the standard clauses applied only to those States which had agreed to them, whereas the Soviet Union had expressed reservations with regard to sections 24 and 32 of the Convention. The Soviet Union held the view that, before any dispute could be submitted to the International Court of Justice, it was necessary to obtain the consent of the parties to the dispute. With regard to section 43, the Soviet Union also had reservations in respect of UNIDO.

54. The PRESIDENT suggested that delegations should conduct informal consultations in order to resolve the differences which had emerged in the Council.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 5

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (*continued*)* (E/1986/L.16)

55. The PRESIDENT said that the German Democratic Republic had become a sponsor of draft resolution E/1986/L.16, entitled "Twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the International Covenants on Human Rights". The draft had no programme budget implications.

56. Mr. SAFRONCHUK (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), introducing the draft resolution, said that 1986 marked the twentieth anniversary of the adoption, by General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the tenth anniversary of their entry into force. Both the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights had noted the outstanding role of the Covenants in protecting human rights in all States.

57. The Economic and Social Council had a special responsibility in monitoring compliance with the Covenants and the new norms they had established. The Covenants had increased the ability of the United Nations to combat human rights violations and had fostered international co-operation in the field of human rights. The provisions contained in the Covenants reflected agreed minimum standards, while the fact that they had been accepted by many States with different social systems and at different stages of economic development bore witness to their viability. His Government attached great importance to the strengthening of co-operation in the field of human rights in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, and trusted that it would be possible for the Council to adopt the draft resolution by consensus.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.

*Resumed from the 9th meeting.

13th meeting

Monday, 12 May 1986, at 3.25 p.m.

President: Mr. Manuel DOS SANTOS (Mozambique)

E/1986/SR.13

AGENDA ITEM 4

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (*continued*)*

DRAFT RESOLUTION E/1986/L.17

1. Ms. BOGÄRDE (Sweden), introducing draft resolution E/1986/L.17, announced that Australia, Colombia, Denmark, Greece, Panama, Portugal and Spain had joined as sponsors. All the sponsors hoped that it would be adopted by consensus.
2. In the fifth preambular paragraph, quotation marks should be placed around the words "general observations". In that same paragraph, the phrase "on ways and means of implementing article 21 of the Convention" should be deleted.
3. The Convention had been opened for signature on 1 March 1980. To date, 87 States had ratified and acceded to it, representing an increase of 21 States since 1985. In the draft resolution, States which had not yet become parties were urged to do so as soon as possible, and the Secretary-General was requested to submit yearly reports to the General Assembly on the status of the Convention.

AGENDA ITEM 3

Implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (E/1986/3, E/1986/4, E/1986/44, E/1986/49)

4. The PRESIDENT drew the Council's attention to the report of the Sessional Working Group of Governmental Experts on the Implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (E/1986/49), and in particular to sections IV and V concerning formulation of suggestions and reporting obligations of the States parties, respectively.
5. In 1987, the new Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, composed of 18 experts serving in their personal capacity, would convene at Geneva. The Council might wish to begin selecting appropriate dates for the Committee's 1987 session.
6. Mr. LABERGE (Canada) expressed the hope that eventually the new Committee would submit reports that were as detailed as the yearly reports prepared by the Human Rights Committee. The new Committee would have only three weeks in 1987 to examine a great many reports by States parties. That would leave very little time for in-depth analysis or for preparation of a thorough report for the Economic and Social Council. He hoped the Secretariat would assist the experts in giving a more detailed account of their dialogue with representatives of the States parties than had been given in the past. The report on the 1986 session of the Working Group (E/1986/49)

contained no information on the discussions of the reports submitted.

7. His country attached great importance to the summary records of the meetings of bodies monitoring the implementation of legal instruments adopted by the United Nations.

8. As the work of drafting country reports was often complex, Canada endorsed the recommendation in paragraph 31 of the Working Group's report that the Secretary-General should devise and implement a programme of advisory services and technical assistance for States parties. Referring to the recommendation that States parties should limit their reports to a reasonable length, contained in paragraph 21 (a) (iv), he said the new Committee should bear in mind that current reporting guidelines called for many details.

9. As the Working Group's report had just been distributed, it could not be given the full attention it merited, and the Council would not have time to consider all the recommendations in section IV. They should be communicated to the new Committee.

10. It would be gratifying if more Governments acceded to the Covenant on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of its adoption and the tenth anniversary of its entry into force.

11. Mr. RUIZ-CABAÑAS (Observer for Mexico), speaking as Chairman of the Sessional Working Group of Governmental Experts on the Implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, said that, from the variety of social and economic systems represented by reporting countries, it had become clear to the Working Group that the reports had to be analysed in the context of each country's stage of development. The experts were also more convinced than ever that dialogue with representatives of the States parties was essential to the implementation of the Covenant. Through dialogue, the experts could better assess where the obstacles lay and offer assistance in overcoming them.

12. In 1986, the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Covenant and the tenth anniversary of its entry into force, the Working Group was making a special appeal to States which were not yet parties to the Covenant. It was the Working Group's belief that the support of as many States as possible was indispensable for the future of economic, social and cultural rights.

13. The Working Group welcomed the General Assembly's proclamation of 1986 as the International Year of Peace. It considered that continued promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms, particularly the right to life of all peoples, was closely linked to the attainment of international peace.

14. The Working Group had taken special note of the link between the development process of each country and its ability to implement the provisions of the Covenant. It was seriously concerned that the burden of external indebtedness was interfering with the promotion of economic and social rights in Latin

* Resumed from the 9th meeting.

America, Asia and Africa. The Working Group recognized the necessity of strengthening international co-operation for development and of working towards an equitable and just economic order.

15. Mr. BUZO (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic), noting the great strides made by his own country in such areas as housing, old-age pensions, employment, job training and higher education, stressed that it was the responsibility of the State to ensure implementation of the provisions of the Covenant. That was an integral part of his country's development plans.

16. According to the annex to the report of the Working Group (E/1986/49), the number of States parties to the Covenant as at 2 May 1986 had been 87. In view of the fact that 1986 was the tenth anniversary of the entry into force of the Covenant, States had had sufficient time to study it; however, many of them, in particular the United States, had shown a clear reluctance to revise their domestic legislation in accordance with generally acknowledged human rights norms. The discussions during the latest session of the Sessional Working Group of Governmental Experts, from 14 April to 2 May, had shown that there was not always harmony between the real human rights situation and the constitutional provisions of many States, in particular with regard to educational and social benefits. For example, there were millions of unemployed and homeless persons in the developed capitalist countries, and in a number of countries there was even a trend towards further cutting of social programmes. In many capitalist countries, millions were being subjected to flagrant violations of their rights, including the right to health, decent living conditions, housing and cultural benefits, and were thus unable to enjoy even the partial civil and political rights allowed them. The indivisibility and interdependence of all human rights had therefore been referred to in General Assembly resolution 40/114.

17. The Byelorussian SSR supported the recommendation by the Working Group that the Economic and Social Council should reiterate its appeal to Member States to ratify or accede to the Covenant, and it shared the concern expressed by the Working Group at the widening gap between developed and developing countries, as evidenced by increased hunger and external indebtedness. His delegation also wished to emphasize the direct link between the protection of economic, social and cultural rights on the one hand and the prevention of nuclear catastrophe on the other. He expressed the hope that the new Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights would continue the tradition of mutual understanding exemplified by the Working Group and that it would make a significant contribution to the removal of the obstacles to the enjoyment of those rights.

18. Mr. BENNOUNA LOURIDI (Morocco) said that Morocco had always attached great importance

to economic, social and cultural rights, and hoped that the new Committee would make a significant contribution to the promotion of those rights. As a developing country, it was well aware of the inequalities in respect of those rights.

19. The Committee should take into account the legal nature of the Covenant in the analysis of national reports; it was important to determine whether every effort had been made to implement it. His delegation supported the reaffirmation by the Working Group of the inherent right to life; in future it would also be appropriate to take into account the right to development of the entire human community.

20. The enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights depended not only on the efforts and sacrifices of each community, but also on external factors, and it was up to the Committee to draw attention to those external factors and to show to what extent they presented obstacles. It would be useful to note, in each instance, which factors had resulted from natural conditions and which had resulted from economic and other external factors. Paragraphs 24 to 26 of the Group's report (E/1986/49) referred to that area. He expressed the hope that the Committee would analyse the question fully and provide specific examples.

AGENDA ITEM 7

Population questions (*continued*)

DRAFT RESOLUTION E/1986/L.20

21. Mr. CHOWDHURY (Bangladesh), introducing draft resolution E/1986/L.20, said that in the text the general thrust of the debate in the Council was taken into account. He summarized the contents of the draft resolution, drawing particular attention to paragraphs 7 and 8, which reflected the concerns of many delegations, and paragraph 10, which emphasized the need for more co-ordination in the field of population.

22. The end of paragraph 9 should be revised to read: "... a co-ordinated, effective and efficient strategy for the United Nations to address population issues;". In paragraph 12, the part of the sentence following the phrase "a further report" should read: "to it at the forty-third session of the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council".

23. Since some delegations had approached his delegation with ideas for changes in the draft resolution, he suggested that informal consultations should be held.

The meeting rose at 4.35 p.m.

14th meeting

Tuesday, 13 May 1986, at 3.25 p.m.

President: Mr. Manuel DOS SANTOS (Mozambique)

E/1986/SR.14

AGENDA ITEM 2

Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (continued)*

DRAFT RESOLUTION E/1986/L.19

1. Mrs. BUTIKU (Observer for the United Republic of Tanzania), speaking on behalf of the Group of African States, introduced draft resolution E/1986/L.19. The African States were greatly concerned at the state of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and hoped that the draft resolution would be adopted by consensus.
2. Mr. RAMCHARAN (Centre for Human Rights) said that he wished to show the maximum spirit of co-operation with delegations. The reference to the "apparent lack of co-operation between the Centre for Human Rights and the Office of the Co-ordinator" made in the preamble to the draft resolution seemed to reflect some misunderstanding. Continuous and friendly co-operation had taken place between the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and the Centre, on the basis of established procedures which had been mutually agreed upon.
3. Miss AYORINDE (Nigeria) said it was a little odd to find the representative of the Centre attempting to defend an indefensible situation. Year after year, the Group of African States had judged the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action to be inadequate. Now that the problem had been identified, it seemed only proper to draw the Council's attention to it, so that future reports would be good and would enable the Council to carry out its role of review properly. That was why the references to co-operation had been included in the draft resolution.

AGENDA ITEM 3

Implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (continued) (E/1986/3, E/1986/4, E/1986/44, E/1986/49)

4. Mr. VRAALSEN (Observer for Norway), speaking on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Sweden and Norway, said that the Nordic countries considered that the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights¹⁶ and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights¹⁶ were equally important and that every effort should be made to implement both instruments. Since all human rights interacted with and reinforced one another, the Nordic countries could not accept any theory which implied that certain economic and social rights must be secured before the exercise of civil and political rights could be envisaged. It was, however, true that

the rights described in the two Covenants were different in nature and that different approaches were required for their implementation.

5. The rights outlined in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights were indispensable to a dignified life. Accordingly, stronger efforts were needed at the national and international levels to promote them. Every State should have a national policy to bring about a just distribution of economic and social benefits. That could best be done through democratic institutions. National action must be accompanied by international action. In that connection, he pointed out that the Nordic countries were devoting considerable resources to development assistance through both bilateral and multilateral channels.
6. The Council should consider how to increase the number of new ratifications of the Covenant, which had declined significantly in recent years.
7. Recalling the decision to establish a Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to replace the Sessional Working Group of Governmental Experts, he said that, if the criteria for the election of members of that Committee were fully abided by, the Committee would be able to conduct a more independent and subject-oriented examination than its predecessor. The Nordic countries attached great importance to the development of a constructive dialogue between the Committee and reporting States, and felt that the latter must be duly represented by competent experts. They also considered it important that the specialized agencies should participate in the proceedings. They supported the candidature of Mr. Jan Helgesen, of Norway, for membership in the new Committee.
8. As was pointed out in the report of the Working Group (E/1986/49), there was room for improvement in the current guidelines for the preparation of country reports. The Committee should consider developing general guidelines for the reports to be submitted in accordance with articles 16 and 17 of the Covenant, taking into account the guidelines concerning major human rights instruments prepared by the Secretary-General. The guidelines should be kept constantly under review.
9. The Nordic countries congratulated the Press Section on the coverage given to the Working Group in 1986 and hoped that that coverage would be continued.
10. Mr. NOWORYTA (Poland) said that his delegation attached importance to the implementation of the two International Covenants on Human Rights and believed that respect for human rights in their civil, political, economic, social and cultural aspects and the strengthening of international peace and security were mutually reinforcing. In that connection, he noted that Poland had sought to establish a direct link between the observance of the International Year of Peace and the efforts of the international community to promote disarmament. Some of

*Resumed from the 9th meeting.

the events organized in Poland in observance of the Year were outlined in document A/41/305.

11. While recognizing the importance of the International Covenants on Human Rights in promoting universal respect for human rights, the socialist countries continued to have their own views on certain principles outlined in the Covenants, particularly those relating to social questions; they considered that they were not sufficiently far-reaching. His Government had submitted a second periodic report on the implementation of the provisions of articles 6 to 9 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,¹⁶ and another report in accordance with article 40 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.¹⁶ Both covered the period 1980 to 1985, during which, despite many problems, significant accomplishments had been made in the promotion of the right to work, the right to free education, and the right to free and universal health care.

12. His delegation welcomed the appeals contained in General Assembly resolutions 40/114 and 40/115 to States that had not yet done so to become parties to the International Covenants on Human Rights. It supported the suggestion of the Human Rights Committee that more publicity should be given to its work and that of the Council, and that the administrative and related arrangements should be improved.

13. It welcomed the decision of the General Assembly in its resolution 40/114 to convene a commemorative plenary meeting on 16 December 1986 devoted to the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the two International Covenants. That meeting could be supplemented by similar events at United Nations Headquarters, at the Centre for Human Rights and at the Vienna International Centre. Subject to the availability of financial resources, an international seminar on the experience of different States in the implementation of the two Covenants should also be organized.

14. Finally, his delegation welcomed the decision to establish a Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

15. Mr. BRAUN (Federal Republic of Germany) said that the transformation of the Working Group into a Committee of independent experts would facilitate the work of the Economic and Social Council. His Government believed that a greater effort should be made to heighten public awareness of the relationship between civil and political rights on the one hand, and economic, social and cultural rights on the other hand. The two sets of rights differed in that they entailed different legal obligations for States parties. Whereas the promotion of economic, social and cultural rights required positive action, the protection of civil and political rights required the State to refrain from certain action. While, pursuant to article 2 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,¹⁶ such rights were to be achieved progressively, parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights¹⁶ were under an immediate obligation to comply with its provisions. Both categories of human rights, despite their differences, should be recognized as mutually supportive.

16. His Government had played an important role in the establishment of the Working Group, and in transforming it into a Committee of independent

experts. It had nominated Mr. Bruno Simma to serve on the new Committee.

17. Mr. QUINN (Australia) suggested that the Council should rationalize its procedures by placing related items together on the agenda. Similarly, because of the relationship between economic, social and cultural rights, and civil and political rights, it would be logical for the Council to discuss the two Covenants together.

18. Australia appreciated the contribution of the Working Group and would lend its full support to the new Committee. The 1986 report of the Working Group (E/1986/49) reflected the large volume of country reports it had had to consider. It was a pity that the document had been distributed too late to allow delegations sufficient time to review it.

19. His country would have difficulty endorsing the rather general, even over-simplified, comments in paragraphs 22 to 27 of the report concerning respect for economic, social and cultural rights within the context of the current international environment. The general nature of those suggestions indicated that the Working Group had lacked sufficient time to prepare them. "Progressive" implementation of the provisions of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights should not be used as an excuse for inaction.

20. The text of resolution 1986/17, which had been adopted by consensus at the forty-second session of the Commission on Human Rights, emphasized the importance of the reporting process under the Covenant and reminded the States parties that expertise should be the main qualification of nominees to the new Committee. It underlined the need to place the work of the Committee in the broader context of the relationship between economic, social and cultural rights and the development process.

21. Delegations should submit suggestions on how the new Committee should function. Australia believed that the breadth of subject-matter covered by the Covenant created special difficulties. It was important that the new Committee should be as disciplined and rigorous as possible in asking questions related to reports. To that end, more general questions could be avoided if reporting countries prepared brief country profiles.

22. Moreover, it would be easier to handle the large volume of documentation generated in the reporting process if attachments to reports were used more effectively, and if reports sought to identify trends and to analyse, rather than simply describe, current developments. It would also be important to cross-reference material available to other expert committees.

23. Very few academics had focused on the subject of economic, social and cultural rights. The mere handful of international experts on the Covenant included Dr. Philip Alston, Australia's nominee to serve on the Committee. Greater publicity of the Committee's work might kindle the interest of jurists, social scientists and non-governmental organizations.

24. Since a number of reports remained outstanding, a close watch would have to be kept to ensure that a serious backlog did not develop. It might be useful to offer training courses to assist Governments with limited resources in preparing their reports.

25. The role of the Economic and Social Council would continue to be one of promoting system-wide

co-ordination in upholding economic, social and cultural rights.

26. Mrs. ALVAREZ (France) said France attached great importance to the interdependence of all human rights and had participated actively in the Working Group. In 1985, it had presented its report under articles 13 to 15 of the Covenant, and at the most recent session of the Working Group, experts had had praise for its report on articles 6 to 9.

27. Her country had made every effort to ensure that its legislation was in conformity with the articles of the Covenant. Social rights had been affirmed in the French Constitution as early as 1946, and had been restated in 1958. The right to work and women's rights were guaranteed under French law, despite an economic situation that had at times been unfavourable. France had traditionally dispatched officials of the respective ministries to explain its social legislation, and to reply to questions raised by members of the Working Group.

28. Her delegation particularly appreciated that the Group of Experts had taken into account the difficulties encountered by States as a result of the different development process in each country. The position of the French expert had constantly been one of concern for a better understanding not only of efforts and accomplishments, but also of obstacles encountered by countries, with a view to helping them, at their request, to overcome those obstacles. In many cases, the provisions of the Covenant affected, or even called into question, the social organization of a country, and the necessary changes could not be made in one year. By the same token, France recognized the importance of efforts being made to define the notion of a right to development, and would spare no effort to help in that difficult task.

29. In the report of the Working Group (E/1986/49), many recommendations had been made with regard to the submission of country reports and with regard to publicity and the participation of specialized agencies in the work of the Working Group. She paid tribute to the work of the Group and wished the new Committee every success. France would always be prepared to lend its full co-operation to the new body, not only in the legal field but also in the analysis of economic, sociological and technological trends.

30. Mr. SAFRONCHUK (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the provisions of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights¹⁶ were fully implemented in his country both as a matter of State policy and by virtue of the very nature of its socialist society, in which exploitation had been eliminated and the material and spiritual welfare of the people vastly improved. Over the past quarter of a century, real per capita income had soared and housing conditions had been greatly improved. In the field of education, in 1985 alone, increased expenditures had resulted in a vastly improved and expanded infrastructure to accommodate more pupils and students at all levels and in all specialties, with improved conditions for both teachers and students. The latter were assured opportunities in their fields after graduation.

31. The commendable efforts of the developing countries to fulfil their obligations under the Covenant deserved particular support, since they were being made under the burdens of the financial and economic crisis inflicted upon them by an imperialist

system. The recent report of the Working Group (E/1986/49) rightly took note of their special difficulties, and he drew attention in that connection to paragraph 25 of the report. The Soviet Union therefore supported the demands of the developing countries for the establishment of a new and just international economic order to ensure the economic security of States. The Working Group had referred to the indissoluble link between the promotion of social and economic rights and the achievement of international peace, and he drew attention in that connection to paragraph 22 of the report, which also contained sound recommendations that should be reflected in a Council resolution.

32. Some developed countries refused to ratify the Covenant on the grounds that social and economic rights were not human rights or were merely of secondary importance or ill-defined. The Soviet Union agreed with the overwhelming majority of States, however, that social and economic rights were inseparable from civil and political rights, as was clear from the preambles to the International Covenants on Human Rights and to General Assembly resolutions 32/130 and 40/114. Of course, it would be inconsistent to become a party to the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights while undermining vital social programmes in order to pursue the arms race and while harbouring a vast army of the unemployed, hungry and homeless. There could be no justification for a policy of paying lip-service to human rights while callously violating them. His delegation urged those States that had not yet done so, especially the United States, to ratify the Covenant and implement its provisions. The Council should take a decision designed to promote international co-operation in human rights and to ensure universal accession to the Covenant.

33. Mr. GOLEMANOV (Observer for Bulgaria) said that efforts to preserve international peace and security were obviously relevant to the enjoyment of all human rights, including economic, social and cultural rights. Only under conditions of peace and in a world free from the threat of nuclear war would all nations be able to make the most of their material and human resources in developing their societies and in creating for each individual the necessary conditions for his or her full development as a human being. The International Year of Peace, currently being celebrated, should serve to mobilize the efforts of the entire international community to do away with the arms race and the threat of nuclear war.

34. In spite of a certain reluctance on the part of some countries, the majority of the international community had proceeded with the task of encouraging the promotion of economic, social and cultural rights. The acceptance of the indivisibility and interdependence of all human rights had become a major achievement in international efforts to promote those rights, and the right of peoples and individuals to development was gaining momentum, despite some stubborn resistance and obstructionist manoeuvring. However, much remained to be done. In that respect, the results of the latest session of the Working Group could serve as useful guidance for future efforts. The Group's report reflected the interrelationship between the safeguarding of peace and the promotion of economic, social and cultural rights; the urgent need to establish a just and democratic new international economic order; and

the importance of taking into account the socio-economic conditions prevailing in a given country at its level of economic development when the extent of the realization of economic, social and cultural rights was being evaluated.

35. One of the major concerns in the field of human rights was the massive denial of those rights to millions of people in a number of highly industrialized countries. The argument often adduced by those countries, that the Covenant envisaged only a general commitment to a gradual implementation of its provisions, was unconvincing because of the scant results achieved by them so far and because of article 2, paragraph 1, of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights⁶ which provided that States parties should take steps to the maximum of their available resources. Particularly disturbing in that respect was the fact that, more often than not, the millions of people affected were, *de facto*, politically impotent, as could be seen in the ratio of representation of different social strata in the highest legislative and decision-making organs of the countries in question. The reasons for the massive and continuous denial of a whole range of human rights lay primarily in the political priorities of those

countries, which were designed to do everything but ensure human rights on a just and equal basis for all. 36. In the light of the work that remained to be done in the field of economic, social and cultural rights, Bulgaria's approach had been one of awareness and optimism. Its experience at the national level demonstrated that the effective enjoyment of human rights, including economic, social and cultural rights, by all members of society on a just and politically and socially equitable basis was not an impossible task, provided that the necessary profound economic and social transformations were duly undertaken. At the international level, Bulgaria had participated actively in efforts to promote the whole spectrum of human rights. In that respect, his delegation welcomed the establishment of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the proclamation of 1987 as the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless. Bulgaria was prepared to work as actively as ever, together with other Member States, towards the goal of promoting and realizing economic, social and cultural, as well as civil and political, rights for the millions of people currently deprived of them.

The meeting rose at 5.20 p.m.

15th meeting

Monday, 19 May 1986, at 10.30 a.m.

President: Mr. Manuel DOS SANTOS (Mozambique)

E/1986/SR.15

AGENDA ITEM 1

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (*continued*)

DRAFT RESOLUTION E/1986/L.23

1. Mr. MAKSIMOV (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) introduced draft resolution E/1986/L.23, entitled "International Year of Peace", on behalf of his own delegation and those of Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. He pointed out that paragraph 2 reflected a recommendation adopted by consensus by the Sessional Working Group of Governmental Experts on the Implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (E/1986/49, para. 2).

2. The PRESIDENT informed the Council that Czechoslovakia had joined the sponsors of draft resolution E/1986/L.23.

DRAFT RESOLUTION E.1986/L.14*

At the request of the representative of the United States, a separate vote was taken by roll-call on paragraphs 3, 5, 6 and 8 of draft resolution E/1986/L.14.

Zimbabwe, having been drawn by lot by the President, was called upon to vote first.

*From the 8th meeting, paras. 5 to 9.

In favour: Brazil, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Djibouti, Egypt, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Guyana, Indonesia, Iraq, Mozambique, Nigeria, Peru, Poland, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Venezuela, Yugoslavia.

Against: United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Spain, Sweden.

Paragraphs 3, 5, 6 and 8 of draft resolution E/1986/L.14 were adopted by 23 votes to 2, with 11 abstentions.

3. Mr. DE LA TORRE (Argentina) said that, although he had been absent when his country's name was called, he wished his vote to be counted among those in favour of paragraphs 3, 5, 6 and 8, since he had been present during the later part of the voting and had tried to have his vote registered.

4. Mr. BAHADIAN (Brazil) supported the Argentine representative's request to have his vote registered.

5. The PRESIDENT said that the Secretariat would refer to the rules of procedure in the matter.

6. Mr. RAHMAN (Bangladesh), Mr. PRASAD (India), Mr. LOULICHKI (Morocco), Mr. BASHIR (Pakistan), Mrs. REBONG (Philippines) and Mr. TANASA (Romania) said that, if they had been present during the voting, they would have voted in

favour of paragraphs 3, 5, 6 and 8 of draft resolution E/1986/L.14.

7. Mr. DE LA TORRE (Argentina) said that he had consulted the Office of Legal Affairs concerning the voting procedure and had been informed that he was entitled to have his vote registered.

8. The PRESIDENT expressed his regret that, due to an oversight, the representative of Argentina was not given the opportunity to register his vote during the process of voting.

At the request of the representative of the United States of America, a vote was taken by roll-call on draft resolution E/1986/L.14 as a whole.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Djibouti, Egypt, Finland, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Guyana, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Mozambique, Nigeria, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sweden, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Venezuela, Yugoslavia.

Against: United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Belgium, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Italy, Japan, Spain.

Draft resolution E/1986/L.14 was adopted by 34 votes to 2, with 6 abstentions (resolution 1986/1).

9. Mr. HANTKE (Federal Republic of Germany), speaking in explanation of vote on behalf of his own delegation and the delegations of France, Belgium, Italy, Spain and the United Kingdom, said that they abhorred *apartheid*. However, the resolution just adopted had presented them with a number of problems which had prevented them from voting in favour of it, for the same reason that they had been unable to support the resolution on the same subject at the second regular session of 1985 of the Council. The European Community's Code of Conduct for European transnational corporations operating in South Africa had recently been reinforced in pursuance of decisions adopted by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the 12 States members of the Community. Progress achieved by those transnational corporations in implementing that Code of Conduct would contribute to finding a solution to the problem of *apartheid* and favour peaceful change in South Africa.

10. The second reason they could not support the resolution was that measures referred to in it did not fall within the mandate of the Council and should be discussed in other United Nations bodies. Thirdly, although the European countries in question had implemented some of the recommendations contained in the report of the Panel of Eminent Persons established to conduct the public hearings on the activities of transnational corporations in South Africa and Namibia (E/C.10/1986/9), other recommendations put forward therein went beyond the general policy of the Twelve towards South Africa. They therefore could not endorse all the recommendations stated in paragraph 3 of the text just adopted.

11. Lastly, those countries had not been in a position to support General Assembly resolution 40/64 C, which called for the convening of a world conference on sanctions against South Africa.

12. Mr. OLSSON (Sweden), speaking also on behalf of the Governments of Finland and Iceland, said that these delegations had voted in favour of the resolu-

tion as a whole because they shared its overall objectives. However, they had abstained in the vote on paragraphs 3, 5, 6 and 8 because those paragraphs contained sweeping language and gave rise to objections of principle.

13. Mr. PAULSEN (Observer for Norway) said that Norway, as a member of the Commission on Transnational Corporations, had been pleased to vote in favour of resolution E/1986/L.14 in the Commission in April, in spite of difficulties with certain paragraphs. He hoped that the resolution would now serve as a useful input for the Conference to be held in Paris in June.

14. Mr. BROWN (Canada) said that Canada had found much that it could support in the report of the Panel of Eminent Persons. It was well-balanced, although more importance could have been given to the constructive, restraining role of transnational corporations in the South African economy and society. However, some of its recommendations were not acceptable to Canada: specifically, the request to transnational corporations to violate national and international law and the demand for disinvestment by a date in the near future. That short time-scale and the arbitrary nature of the recommendation were not acceptable. Neither were unbalanced references to support by transnational corporations for the South African régime. The Canadian delegation had therefore abstained in the vote on the paragraphs in question. Canada was in favour of the immediate abolition of *apartheid* and the establishment of a non-racial, representative Government in both South Africa and Namibia. It was particularly distressed by the extreme action taken by South Africa in the previous few hours, which would only serve to undermine the objectives of peaceful transition to majority rule, which Canada was supporting through the Commonwealth initiative and other efforts.

15. Mr. LAVROV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation had voted in favour of paragraphs 3, 5, 6 and 8 and of the text that had just been adopted as a whole. His delegation had firmly supported the Council decision to hold public hearings on the activities of transnational corporations in South Africa and Namibia and had played an active part in them. The hearings had helped to mobilize public opinion throughout the world in condemning the co-operation of transnational corporations with the racist régime and its illegal occupation of Namibia. It had been demonstrated during the hearings that with the connivance of their base countries, the transnational corporations were expanding their activities in southern Africa, in violation of United Nations resolutions, creating the material basis for the criminal system in South Africa and preventing the attainment of independence by Namibia. It was indicative that specific measures to limit transnational corporation activities in southern Africa, already repeatedly included in the resolutions of several United Nations bodies, had again been reflected in the recommendations of the Panel of Eminent Persons. His delegation strongly urged the total implementation by the transnational corporations and their base countries of the relevant decisions of the United Nations. The USSR supported the recommendations of the Panel and the convening of the World Conference on Sanctions against Racist South Africa, to which the resolution just adopted would be an important contribution. It also supported the provisions of the resolution concerning contin-

uing United Nations activities for the final elimination of *apartheid* from South Africa and the achievement of independence by Namibia.

16. Mr. TOURÉ (Guinea), Mr. PRASAD (India), Mr. LOULICHKI (Morocco), Miss BROWN (Jamaica), Mr. BASHIR (Pakistan), Mr. KABANDA (Rwanda), Mr. GLAIEL (Syrian Arab Republic), Mr. ODOCH-JATO (Uganda) and Mr. KADAHY (Zaire) said that if their delegations had been present during the voting, they would have voted in favour of draft resolution E/1986/L.14 as a whole.

17. Mr. PILBEAM (Australia) said that his delegation had voted in favour of the resolution in the belief that the broad thrust of the report and recommendations of the Panel of Eminent Persons were to be welcomed. The report (E/C.10/1986/9) was comprehensive and balanced, and the recommendations were consistent with measures Australia had taken unilaterally, including the drafting of a voluntary code of business conduct for Australian firms operating in South Africa. His delegation hoped that other Governments whose business communities were active in South Africa would also view the report in a positive light.

18. Those of the Panel's recommendations which appeared more extreme than was generally accepted by the international community, or which advocated corporate action that might violate South African or international law, must be studied further. Nevertheless, the report showed how targeted action, applied universally, could induce the South African Government to institute a general process of reform.

19. However, his delegation could not endorse all the Panel's recommendations. For example, as Australia's voluntary code of conduct was based on the premise that there was currently no specific proscription of activities by transnational corporations in South Africa, he was unable to accept paragraph 3 of the resolution in its entirety. Neither could he accept the assertion in paragraph 6 that transnational corporations alone perpetuated the system of *apartheid* and the illegal occupation of Namibia. Finally, given that the Australian code of conduct was designed to encourage companies to take action to oppose *apartheid* while continuing to abide by South African legislation, it would be illogical for the Australian Government to condemn those companies, as called for in paragraph 5 of the resolution just adopted.

20. Mr. BASTIAN (German Democratic Republic) said his delegation had voted in favour of the resolution. The racist régime could not continue to exist without support in the form of the ongoing and expanding activities of transnational corporations based in imperialist countries. The resolution was a timely one and fully in keeping with the mandate of the Council. The measures proposed in it could effectively assist the peoples of South Africa and Namibia in their just struggle against the racist régime, and the World Conference on Sanctions against Racist South Africa must play an important role in that regard.

21. Mr. ORLANDO (United States of America) recalled that his delegation had consistently voted against resolutions and reports on the activities of transnational corporations in South Africa considered in the context of the Commission on Transnational Corporations because it believed that such activities could contribute positively to change there. Those negative votes did not reflect any support for

the *apartheid* system, which his delegation, in fact, condemned. While he agreed that it was important to send a strong message of concern regarding the practice of *apartheid* to the South African Government, the economic well-being of millions of people in South Africa and southern Africa should not be jeopardized.

22. He disagreed that transnational corporations' involvement in the South African economy supported *apartheid*. Rather, it was the collision between the requirements of a growing industrial society and an essentially pre-industrial political ideology that had accounted for many of the reforms that had already taken place. Nothing would be gained by weakening that process, which had increased black economic and political clout and in which American and other foreign investment had played a part.

23. His Government would continue to oppose punitive sanctions against South Africa because they would hurt the people they were intended to help and might lead to further political polarization and violence. Damaging the South African economy would also endanger the tenuous economies of other countries in the region which were closely tied to it.

24. He drew attention to recent developments in his country's policy towards South Africa which were of particular relevance to the question of transnational corporations in that country. In his Executive Order of 9 September 1985, the President of the United States had sought to strike a blow against *apartheid*, rather than against the South African economy and people as a whole. The Executive Order prohibited bank loans from United States financial institutions to the South African Government and all exports of computers and related materials and technology for use by all agencies involved in the enforcement of *apartheid*. It also prohibited the export to South Africa of materials relating to the nuclear-energy industry, with exceptions made in cases involving the protection of public health and safety. Imports of arms, ammunition and military vehicles produced in South Africa were banned, in implementation of Security Council resolution 558 (1984). All United States firms in South Africa which employed at least 25 persons were required to adhere to fair labour standards based on the Sullivan Principles; firms which did not comply were ineligible for export-marketing support from the United States Government. A subsequent Executive Order prohibited the importing of krugerrands into the United States.

25. The ability of any foreign State to influence events in South Africa by means of harsh economic measures was negligible. At the same time, the United States' presence in South Africa constituted clear proof that workers in that country could be treated with dignity despite the existence of a harsh system of officially sanctioned discrimination on the basis of race. Continued commitment and efforts to bring about change was the best way of assisting black South Africans, who would one day play a major role in shaping their country's destiny.

Assistance to the drought-stricken areas of Ethiopia (concluded)

26. The PRESIDENT recalled that, at the 10th plenary meeting of the Council, the Director of the Monitoring and Evaluation Unit of the Office for Emergency Operations in Africa had presented an

oral report to the Council on the situation of emergency assistance to the drought victims in Ethiopia.

27. Mr. WORKU (Observer for Ethiopia) said that some 6.5 million people in Ethiopia continued to require emergency assistance: despite the arrival of rain, acute drought persisted in some areas of the country. Furthermore, the lack of necessary inputs had prevented the Ethiopian Government from taking advantage of the improved climatic situation. He therefore echoed the appeal made by the representative of the Office for Emergency Operations in Africa.

28. The Ethiopian Government was conducting a thorough study of the current situation in the country with a view to solving the drought problem. He suggested that the Council should defer taking any action on the matter until its second regular session of 1986, by which time the Ethiopian Government would have been able to assess the problem fully and would be in a position to provide the international community with fuller information.

29. Mr. DIRAR (Observer for the Sudan) said that, as the representative of another drought-stricken country, he could fully appreciate the significance of the appeal made by the Observer for Ethiopia. The international community must spare no efforts in fulfilling its responsibilities to Ethiopia.

30. The PRESIDENT suggested that, as no draft proposal had been submitted under the question before the Council, the Council might wish to decide to take note of the oral report of the Secretary-General on the subject and defer any further action to the second regular session of 1986, as the Observer for Ethiopia had proposed.

It was so decided (decision 1986/118).

SCHEDULING OF THE SESSIONS OF THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD (E/1986/76)

31. The PRESIDENT drew the attention of Council members to a letter dated 3 April 1986 from the President of the Trade and Development Board, contained in document E/1986/76, in response to Council decision 1986/105, in which, *inter alia*, the Trade and Development Board was requested to transmit its recommendations regarding scheduling of its regular sessions to the Council at its first regular session of 1986. He also drew attention to Trade and Development Board decisions 333 (XXXII) and 334 (XXXII), which were annexed to document E/1986/76.

32. In the absence of any draft proposals on the question, he suggested that the Council should adopt a decision drafted along the following lines:

"The Economic and Social Council,

"Having considered the letter dated 3 April 1986 from the President of the Trade and Development Board addressed to the President of the Council in pursuance of Council decisions 1984/161 of 25 July 1984 and 1985/106 of 8 February 1985, on the scheduling of the sessions of the Board, decides:

"(a) To invite the Trade and Development Board to pursue its efforts to find a flexible and practical approach to the resolution of this issue;

"(b) To consider, at its second regular session of 1986, the report of the Board on its thirty-second session;

"(c) To request the Secretary-General, without prejudice to further consideration of the present arrangements by the Council at a future session, to transmit the report of the Board on its fifteenth special session and its thirty-third session directly to the General Assembly."

33. If he heard no objection, he would take it the Council agreed to adopt the text of the decision, on the understanding that the Secretariat would give it its final form.

It was so decided (decision 1986/119).

AGENDA ITEM 2

Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (*concluded*) (E/1986/L.19)

DRAFT RESOLUTION E/1986/L.19

34. Mrs. BUTIKU (Observer for the United Republic of Tanzania) said that, during the informal consultations which had been held on draft resolution E/1986/L.19, delegations had displayed a high degree of co-operation; she consequently hoped that the draft resolution could be adopted without a vote.

Draft resolution E/1986/L.19 was adopted without a vote (resolution 1986/2).

35. Mr. ORLANDO (United States of America) said that his delegation had not participated in the adoption of resolution E/1986/L.19. Although his delegation had supported the launching of the first Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, it had ceased to participate in any activities relating both to that Decade and to the Second Decade following the adoption by the General Assembly of resolution 3379 (XXX), which equated Zionism with racism and racial discrimination.

36. Mr. SCHWANDT (Federal Republic of Germany) said his delegation had joined in the consensus on draft resolution E/1986/L.19 on the understanding that the references in the text to migrant workers were not intended to imply that migrant workers were subject to racial discrimination as a rule.

37. U Tin PE (Observer for Burma) said that unique opportunities might be missed if assertive action was not taken on the agenda item under discussion. In the country which was guilty of the most flagrant display of State-sponsored racism, there were signs that the horrendous system of *apartheid* was beginning to collapse. It was extremely important that the rest of the world community should demonstrate its commitment to the ending of all forms of racism and racial discrimination, and the co-ordination of opposition to *apartheid* depended upon the United Nations. All the elements were available for an adequate programme of consultation and co-ordination, but they needed to be drawn together in order to have any real meaning. It also appeared that the programme might depend upon the very modest resources apparently required by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, which could probably be made available if the study on the role of private group action were to be put under his jurisdiction and supported by voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the Programme for the Decade. Concrete action was required from Member States in order to ensure better co-ordination in the years to come.

AGENDA ITEM 3

Implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (continued)
(E/1986/L.22)

DRAFT RESOLUTION E/1986/L.22

38. Mr. RUIZ-CABAÑAS (Observer for Mexico), introducing draft resolution E/1986/L.22 on behalf of the sponsors, who had been joined by the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, France and Somalia, said that the draft resolution was primarily intended to enable the Economic and Social Council to fulfil the important functions entrusted to it under articles 21 and 22 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.¹⁶ Provisions had been included with the express purpose of making available the experience acquired over several years by the Sessional Working Group of Governmental Experts for the future work of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. It was important that all States should become parties to the Covenant and that they should fulfil its provisions as strictly as possible, though the Committee should also be aware of the obstacles faced by many States, particularly the developing countries, in fulfilling those provisions. It was hoped that all States parties to the Covenant would co-operate with the Committee to the greatest possible extent in order that the Committee might satisfy the hopes placed in it. The draft resolution had been discussed at length, and had been presented in a single consolidated text as a result of co-operation between the sponsors. It therefore deserved unanimous support.

AGENDA ITEM 5

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (continued)** (E/1986/L.16, E/1986/L.25)

DRAFT RESOLUTION E/1986/L.16

39. Mr. SCHWANDT (Federal Republic of Germany), introducing the amendments to draft resolution E/1986/L.16 contained in document E/1986/L.25 on behalf of the sponsors, who had been joined by Uruguay, said that the amendments were presented in a spirit of co-operation with the desire to achieve consensus in the Council. The intention was both to demonstrate that the Covenants derived from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and to bring the text of the draft resolution into line with the consensus language of General Assembly resolution 40/115 and Commission on Human Rights resolution 1986/17. The amendments to the second and third preambular paragraphs reflected that intention,

**Resumed from the 12th meeting.

while the new fourth preambular paragraph made it clear why the draft resolution was being considered by the Council. The redrafted text of the former sixth preambular paragraph contained the consensus language of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1986/17, while the proposed amendment to paragraph 1 represented a strengthening of the text with respect to implementation of the provisions of the Covenants. The texts proposed for paragraphs 2, 3, and 4 reflected the consensus language of the General Assembly and of the Commission on Human Rights. The change in paragraph 5 and the deletion of paragraph 6 were proposed in view of the fact that it would be impossible for Governments to inform the Secretary-General before the forty-first session of the General Assembly of special activities due to take place on 16 December 1986.

AGENDA ITEM 6

University for Peace (continued)*** (E/1986/L.24)

DRAFT RESOLUTION E/1986/L.24

40. Mrs. CASTRO de BARISH (Costa Rica), introducing draft resolution E/1986/L.24 on behalf of the sponsors, who had been joined by the Philippines, said that the possibilities for an agreement of co-operation between the United Nations and the University for Peace had not yet been explored but that such an agreement, which would be appropriate in view of the five years of activities by the University, could be of great benefit. It was hoped that the Council would understand the need for support of and co-operation with the University for Peace, with a view to boosting efforts in the field of international higher education in accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations and that it would therefore adopt the draft resolution by consensus.

AGENDA ITEM 8

International co-operation in tax matters (concluded)** (E/1986/19)

41. The PRESIDENT proposed that the Council should decide to take note of the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the *Ad Hoc* Group of Experts on International Co-operation in Tax Matters and approve the recommendations contained therein (E/1986/19).

It was so decided (decision 1986/120).

The meeting rose at 12.30 p.m.

***Resumed from the 10th meeting.

16th meeting

Wednesday, 21 May 1986, at 3.10 p.m.

President: Mr. Manuel DOS SANTOS (Mozambique)

E/1986/SR.16

AGENDA ITEM 1

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (*continued*) (E/1986/L.23/Rev.1)

DRAFT RESOLUTION E/1986/L.23/REV.1

1. Mr. MAKSIMOV (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic), introducing draft resolution E/1986/L.23/Rev.1, on the International Year of Peace, said that the current text of the draft resolution was a revised version that had been agreed to by the sponsors after consultations. In paragraph 1, the words "*Wholeheartedly endorses*" had been replaced by the word "*Supports*"; former paragraph 3 was now paragraph 2; and a new paragraph 3 had been added. The words "and to inform the Secretary-General thereon" had been deleted in paragraph 6, and the last clause of the last preambular paragraph, from the words "in which these bodies", had also been deleted.

2. Mr. STIRLING (United States of America) said that all the sponsors of draft resolution E/1986/L.23/Rev.1 represented the same ideological group and that it was their particular views that were reflected, and in an inappropriate manner, in the text, which failed to reflect the views of many other delegations, despite consultations. He objected to the entire concept of the International Year of Peace as used by the sponsors, and to the draft resolution's implicit censure of certain countries, especially his own. Declarations and propaganda were no substitute for positive action. He therefore proposed that the draft resolution should be amended by deleting paragraphs 4, 5 and 6 and all of the preambular paragraphs except the seventh, and ending paragraph 1 with the word "Peace".

3. Mr. MAKSIMOV (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) said that the draft resolution did not contain propaganda. The preambular paragraphs were based on previous decisions of the General Assembly and other United Nations bodies and there was therefore no need to delete them. It was important for the Council to adopt such a text concerning the tasks facing the United Nations in connection with the International Year of Peace.

4. Mr. STIRLING (United States of America) said that the Council had already discussed the International Year of Peace quite extensively and that a short draft resolution was all that was needed. He was surprised that objectionable paragraphs still appeared in it despite the fact that the contentious issues had already been discussed, and he objected to the conceptual basis of the resolution itself.

5. Mr. MAKSIMOV (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) said that in view of the radical and extensive nature of the proposed amendments to the draft resolution, he would consult with the sponsors concerning their acceptability.

SELECTION OF TOPICS FOR PRIORITY CONSIDERATION AT THE SECOND REGULAR SESSION OF 1986

6. Mr. MALIK (India), reporting on the results of consultations, said it had been agreed that the priority topic to be considered at the second regular session should be the interrelated issues of money, finance, resource flows, debt, trade, raw materials and development. It had further been agreed that the term "raw materials" included all raw materials, including energy. The understanding had been that the priority would be within the item "General discussion of international economic and social policy, including regional and sectoral developments". Accordingly, there would be only one debate which would consist of the priority topic and the general discussion. It had further been understood that under the item "Operational activities for development" the Council would focus, in particular, on the comprehensive review of operational activities for development, as well as human resources for development and the role of technical co-operation in strengthening public management capacities.

7. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council decided to invite delegations, in their deliberations at the second regular session of 1986, under the item entitled "General discussion of international economic and social policy, including regional and sectoral developments", to have as the priority item the interrelated issues of money, finance, resource flows, debt, trade, raw materials and development. It should be understood that "raw materials" included all materials, including energy.

*It was so decided.**

8. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council decided to invite delegations, in their deliberations at the second regular session of 1986, under the item entitled "Operational activities for development", to give special focus to the comprehensive review of operational activities for development, as well as human resources for development and the role of technical co-operation in strengthening public management capacities.

*It was so decided.**

9. Mr. LEE (Canada) said it was his understanding that the comprehensive review must focus in particular on system-wide co-ordination, with particular reference to the two points mentioned by the President but also with reference to the other areas covered by operational activities.

10. Mr. DUN (United Kingdom) stated for the record that, while his delegation had joined in the consensus on the priority item to be considered at the next session, it continued to believe that the list of interrelated issues read out by the President was not an exhaustive one.

* See decision 1986/121.

CONSIDERATION OF THE POSSIBILITY OF IDENTIFYING AN ISSUE OR ISSUES INCLUDED IN THE AGENDA OF THE COUNCIL FOR IN-DEPTH CONSIDERATION AT THE FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF 1987

11. Mr. SAMUDIO (Panama) said that, following informal consultations on the possibility of identifying an issue or issues included in the Council's agenda for in-depth consideration at the first regular session of 1987, it was proposed that a decision on the matter should be postponed until the first regular session of 1987.

12. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council agreed to postpone a decision on the matter until the first regular session of 1987.

It was so decided (decision 1986/122).

13. Mr. LEE (Canada) said that his delegation had gone along with the consensus decision but wished to point out that delegations had had since the organizational session to consider the matter. He had hoped that it would have been possible to take a decision at the current session. However, he appreciated the diligence with which the consultations had been conducted. It was his delegation's view that, as a principal organ of the United Nations, the Council should be able to examine in greater depth issues that came under the Charter. Such issues should be established in advance so as to allow Governments time to prepare for their consideration.

DRAFT RESOLUTION E/1986/L.23/REV.1
(CONTINUED)

14. Mr. MAKSIMOV (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) informed the Council that the sponsors of draft resolution E/1986/23/Rev.1 had held consultations on the proposed United States amendments and had reached the following conclusions. They could agree to delete the first preambular paragraph. They felt that the third preambular paragraph was important and should be retained. They agreed to delete the fourth preambular paragraph, taking into consideration the views expressed by many delegations in previous consultations. The fifth preambular paragraph must be retained: it was taken from the Proclamation of the International Year of Peace. Many objections had been raised to the sixth preambular paragraph and the sponsors, in a spirit of compromise, had agreed to delete it. However, the seventh and the last preambular paragraphs should be retained.

15. In the operative part of the draft resolution, the sponsors had agreed to the United States proposal that paragraph 1 should be shortened to read "Supports the proclamation by the General Assembly of 1986 as the International Year of Peace". They had also agreed to delete paragraph 4 but considered that paragraphs 5 and 6 should be retained.

16. Mr. STIRLING (United States of America) said that he wished to know the origin of the third preambular paragraph.

17. Mr. MAKSIMOV (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) said that it was taken from the operative paragraph of the Proclamation of the International Year of Peace, annexed to General Assembly resolution 40/3.

18. Mr. STIRLING (United States of America) said that while he appreciated the efforts of the delegation of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic to come

somewhat closer to his own proposal, his delegation still wished to stand by the proposal it had made in its original statement.

19. Mr. MAKSIMOV (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) said that he did not understand the position of the United States delegation. He would welcome clarification as to what exactly that delegation wished.

20. Mr. MATELJAK (Yugoslavia) said that he wished to appeal to the delegation of the United States and to the sponsors of the draft resolution to seek a compromise formula. There could be no question of a vote on the subject of peace and it was essential that the draft resolution be adopted unanimously.

21. The PRESIDENT suggested that the Council should resume its consideration of draft resolution E/1986/L.23/Rev.1 at the following meeting.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 3

Implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (concluded)

DRAFT RESOLUTION E/1986/L.22

22. The CHAIRMAN announced that Bulgaria and Denmark had become sponsors of draft resolution E/1986/L.22.

At the request of the representative of the United States of America, a vote was taken on draft resolution E/1986/L.22.

Draft resolution E/1986/L.22 was adopted by 47 votes to none, with 1 abstention (resolution 1986/3).

23. Ms. YOUNG (United Kingdom), speaking in explanation of vote, said that she had voted in favour of the draft resolution on the understanding that the concept of the indivisibility of human rights did not mean that certain rights could be neglected for the sake of others or that the enjoyment of one set of rights depended necessarily on the enjoyment of others.

24. Mr. STIRLING (United States of America) said that the resolution just adopted was directed towards the States parties of a Covenant to which his country was not party and on whose monitoring committee it could not serve. He had therefore abstained in the vote.

25. Mr. ABOU HADID (Syrian Arab Republic) said that, had his delegation been present during the voting, it would have voted in favour of draft resolution E/1986/L.22.

26. The PRESIDENT said that he had been informed that the dates 9 to 27 March 1987 were available for holding the first session of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights at Geneva and that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee agreed to that venue and to that schedule.

It was so decided (decision 1986/123).

AGENDA ITEM 4

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (concluded)**

DRAFT RESOLUTION E/1986/L.17

27. Ms. BOGÅRDE (Sweden) drew attention to the last preambular paragraph and to paragraph 7 of draft resolution E/1986/L.17 and said that the sponsors had not expected objections to the references therein to decisions that had been adopted by consensus and to reservations that were incompatible with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. In a spirit of compromise, they agreed to revise the draft resolution by reluctantly deleting paragraph 7 and adding the following words to the last preambular paragraph: "and to include in the agenda of their next meeting the question of reservations to the Convention,".

Draft resolution E/1986/L.17, as orally revised, was adopted (resolution 1986/4).

AGENDA ITEM 5

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (continued) (E/1986/L.16, E/1986/L.25)

DRAFT RESOLUTION E/1986/L.16

28. Mr. YAKOVLEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the sponsors of draft resolution E/1986/L.16 were prepared to accept without a vote the amendments outlined in document E/1986/L.25. That in no way affected their position concerning the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which his delegation did not support. At the same time, it had no objection to States acceding to the Protocol if they felt it necessary to do so.

29. Mr. MALIK (India) pointed out that, in the penultimate line of the new paragraph 2 contained in paragraph 6 of document E/1986/L.25, the words "to make" should be amended to read "making".

30. Mr. STIRLING (United States of America) said that, since the United States was not a party to the Covenant, it could not agree that the Covenant established standards and obligations for all States. Accordingly, he suggested that the last line of the proposed amendment to the third preambular paragraph contained in document E/1986/L.25 should address "States parties" rather than "all States". A similar amendment should be made to draft resolution E/1986/L.16. He pointed out that only half the States Members of the United Nations had as yet acceded to the Covenant.

31. Mr. YAKOVLEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) pointed out that the United States had participated in the drafting of, and had signed, the Covenant although it was not a party to the Covenant. Accordingly, the arguments put forward against the wording of the third preambular paragraph and paragraph 1 were insubstantial. He regretted that the United States had expressed doubts as to whether the Covenant set general obligations and standards for all States. The United States position was not to implement the provisions of the Covenant. While his delegation could understand that States might have

difficulty over some standards, it failed to see how any State could refuse to observe all the standards, particularly a State which was constantly expressing its commitment to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

32. Mr. TELLE (France) said that his delegation was somewhat troubled by the controversy over the text. It attached importance to the Covenant and felt that difficulties which separated delegations in other areas should not be transposed to the field covered by the Covenant. He proposed that interested delegations should be given an opportunity to consult with a view to finding a wording that was acceptable to all delegations, including that of the United States.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 6

University for Peace (concluded)

DRAFT RESOLUTION E/1986/L.24 (concluded)

33. Mrs. CASTRO de BARISH (Costa Rica) said that the sponsors of the draft resolution had agreed to revise paragraph 4 to read:

"Requests the Secretary-General to consider the possibility of establishing an agreement of co-operation between the United Nations and the University for Peace;".

Her delegation believed that the agreement of co-operation would not be a financial burden on the United Nations budget. That had always been the understanding, as was reflected in General Assembly resolution 34/111.

34. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt draft resolution E/1986/L.24 as orally revised.

It was so decided (resolution 1986/6).

AGENDA ITEM 7

Population questions (continued) (E/1986/L.20/Rev.1)**

DRAFT RESOLUTION E/1986/L.20/Rev.1

35. Mr. RAHMAN (Bangladesh) pointed out that revised draft resolution E/1986/L.20/Rev.1 reflected the agreements reached during consultations. He strongly recommended that it should be adopted by consensus.

36. Mr. LEE (Canada) expressed the hope that the provisions of draft resolution E/1986/L.20/Rev.1 were consistent with the decision taken earlier by the Council regarding biennial consideration of items.

37. Mr. SEVAN (Secretary of the Council) said that his understanding was that the issues referred to in the draft resolution would be taken up in 1987, when the Council was scheduled to consider the item entitled "Population questions". However, he would like that understanding to be confirmed by the sponsor of the draft resolution.

38. Mr. YAKOVLEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked whether his delegation was right in assuming that draft resolution E/1986/L.20/Rev.1 had no administrative and financial implications.

39. Mr. HACKETT (Department of International Economic and Social Affairs) said that the Secretariat

**Resumed from the 13th meeting.

was presenting the statement on the administrative and financial implications of draft resolution E/1986/L.20/Rev.1 orally since there had been no time to circulate a written statement. If the Council adopted the draft resolution, it was the Secretary-General's intention to implement paragraphs 2 and 3 under the programme of work for the current biennium and for future bienniums. Paragraph 3 would involve travel and per diem expenses amounting to approximately \$6,100 for the attendance of two members of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs for two weeks at the second regular session of the Council at Geneva.

40. Mr. STIRLING (United States of America) requested that a decision on the draft resolution should be postponed while his delegation obtained instructions from his Government with respect to the financial implications.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 13

Narcotic drugs

REPORT OF THE SECOND (SOCIAL) COMMITTEE (E/1986/89)

41. The PRESIDENT said that the Council had before it the report of the Second (Social) Committee on agenda item 13 (E/1986/89). In paragraph 15 of the report, the Committee recommended two draft resolutions for adoption by the Council, namely: I, "Strengthening of the control of international trade in secobarbital, a psychotropic substance listed in Schedule III of the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances"; II, "Demand for and supply of opiates for medical and scientific needs". In paragraph 16 of the report, the Committee recommended four draft decisions for adoption by the Council, namely: I, "Modification of the provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs"; II, "Report of the International Narcotics Control Board"; III, "Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs"; IV, "Preparations for the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking".

42. He invited the Council to take action on the recommendations of the Second (Social) Committee.

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 1986/8).

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

43. The PRESIDENT said that the Second (Social) Committee had adopted draft resolution II by 23 votes to none, with 20 abstentions.

A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution II.

In favour: Bangladesh, Belgium, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Colombia, Costa Rica, Egypt, Finland, France, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, India, Iraq, Pakistan, Panama, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United States of America, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zimbabwe.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Guyana, Iceland, Indonesia, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Peru, Philippines, Senegal, Spain, Sweden, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Draft resolution II was adopted by 29 votes to none, with 21 abstentions (resolution 1986/9).

44. Mr. HERZBERG (United States of America), speaking in explanation of vote, said that his delegation had supported the resolution since it reflected the continuing international problem of the oversupply of illicit opiates and the need for measures to balance the supply of licit opiates with actual demand. The fact that his delegation supported the resolution did not reflect a change in his Government's policy of importing 80 per cent of its requirements from traditional and 20 per cent from non-traditional sources.

DRAFT DECISIONS I, II, III AND IV

Draft decisions I, II, III and IV were adopted (decisions 1986/125, 1986/126, 1986/127 and 1986/128).

45. Mr. AGUILAR (Observer for Guatemala) said that he was concerned about the proposed distribution of posts for the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. The five posts allocated to Latin America and the Caribbean were far from adequate. That region fully appreciated the importance of efforts to combat drug trafficking since it was seriously affected by that problem. He reserved the right to reopen the debate on that issue at a later stage.

46. Mr. HERZBERG (United States of America), speaking in explanation of vote, said that, although his delegation had supported the measures contained in decision IV, he wished to place on record his delegation's strong objections to funds from the regular United Nations budget being used for the travel and subsistence of representatives of so-called national liberation movements, as recommended by the preparatory body for the Conference.

47. Mr. SINCLAIR (Guyana) said that he wished to endorse the concerns just expressed by the Observer for Guatemala. The number of posts assigned to the Latin American and Caribbean region by the preparatory body constituted an injustice to that region, and he hoped that an opportunity would soon be found to redress that situation. He was also disappointed to note that in its report, (A/CONF.133/PC16), the preparatory body had omitted the name "Caribbean" in references to the region. It was important that the correct nomenclature of Latin America and the Caribbean be used in documents of the Council.

48. Mr. BASHIR (Pakistan) said that, in view of the importance of the Conference, his delegation had not opposed draft resolution IV. It was unhappy, however, with the provisional agenda of the Conference, which had not taken due account of the problems faced by the developing countries in their attempts to eliminate the illicit production of raw materials for narcotics. The exclusive focus on national measures was one-sided and detracted from efforts at international co-operation, which was the very purpose of the Conference. His delegation reserved the right to return to that question at a later stage.

49. Miss ATTWOOD (United Kingdom) expressed satisfaction with the work done by the preparatory body and the spirit of co-operation displayed during its meetings. She wished, however, to repeat her Government's long-standing position that the cost of travel and subsistence of representatives of national liberation movements should not be charged to the regular budget of the United Nations. Her delegation reserved the right to revert to that question in the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly.

AGENDA ITEM 12

Social development

REPORT OF THE SECOND (SOCIAL) COMMITTEE (E/1986/92)

50. The PRESIDENT said that the Council had before it the report of its Second (Social) Committee on agenda item 12 (E/1986/92). In paragraph 26 of the report, the Committee recommended five draft resolutions for adoption by the Council, namely: I, "Implementation of the conclusions and recommendations of the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders"; II, "Initial review of the functioning and programme of work of the United Nations in crime prevention and criminal justice"; III, "Crime prevention and criminal justice in the context of development"; IV, "Co-ordination and information in the field of youth"; V, "Improvement of the work of the Commission for Social Development". In paragraph 27 of the report, the Committee recommended two draft decisions for adoption by the Council, namely: I, "Report of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control"; II, "Report of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control on its ninth session and provisional agenda and documentation for the tenth session of the Committee".

51. He invited the Council to take action on the recommendations of the Second (Social) Committee.

DRAFT RESOLUTIONS I AND II

Draft resolutions I and II were adopted (resolutions 1986/10 and 1986/11).

52. Miss BARKER-HARLAND (United Kingdom), speaking in explanation of her delegation's position, said that she wished to place on record her understanding that in the implementation of draft resolution II, the Secretary-General would use existing resources allocated to crime prevention and criminal justice.

DRAFT RESOLUTIONS III, IV AND V

Draft resolutions III, IV and V were adopted (resolutions 1986/12, 1986/13 and 1986/14).

53. Miss BARKER-HARLAND (United Kingdom), speaking in explanation of her delegation's position, said, with regard to resolution V, that the duration and frequency of meetings of any of the functional commissions of the Council should be determined in the light of the mandate of the commission concerned and of the current financial crisis and not on the basis of direct comparisons with other commissions. Her delegation understood the word "strengthen" in the final paragraph to mean "improving the work of the Commission". Under the current circum-

stances, there was no justification for increasing the frequency and duration of the sessions of the Commission for Social Development.

54. Mr. BRAUN (Federal Republic of Germany) said that, despite its grave reservations, his delegation had joined in the consensus on draft resolution V. It would be appropriate for the Commission to limit its activities to its mandate, thus enabling it to fulfil its functions within the present time-frame.

55. Mr. STIRLING (United States of America) said that the frequency of meetings of the Commission must be based on the substance of the work of that Commission and not on comparisons with the relative merits of other commissions.

56. Mr. YAKOVLEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that there was no justification to cast aspersions on the role of the Commission and on the need to strengthen that role. He objected to attempts to view the Commission's role in a negative light. That role should in fact be increased and the Council should accord more attention to social matters.

DRAFT DECISIONS I AND II

Draft decisions I and II were adopted (decisions 1986/129 and 1986/130).

AGENDA ITEM 5

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (*concluded*) (E/1986/L.16, E/1986/L.25)

DRAFT RESOLUTION E/1986/L.16 (*CONCLUDED*)

57. Mr. LAVROV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that after consultations a compromise had been arrived at with respect to the proposed amendments to paragraph 1 of draft resolution E/1986/L.16. That paragraph would now read:

"Invites States to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights by continuing and strengthening measures designed to conform with the provisions of the Covenants;"

58. The PRESIDENT said that he took it that the Council wished to adopt by consensus draft resolution E/1986/L.16 as orally revised.

It was so decided (resolution 1986/5).

59. Mr. TELLE (France) thanked those delegations which had taken part in the consultations for their co-operation and spirit of compromise, which had made it possible to achieve such a result.

60. Mr. WAKE (United States of America) said that, while his delegation had joined in the consensus on the draft resolution, he hoped that those delegations which had participated in the consultations were aware of his Government's concern about the implications of international legal instruments being binding on States which had not ratified them. The consensus formula, however, did highlight the important role of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in the broader context of international human rights.

61. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to adopt the following draft decision, on the understanding that the Secretariat would give it its final form:

"The Economic and Social Council

"(a) Takes note of the note of the Secretary-General (E/1986/16) transmitting the general comments of the Human Rights Committee relating to the position of aliens under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, adopted by the Committee at its twenty-seventh session;

"(b) Decides to authorize the Secretary-General to transmit the annual report of the Human Rights Committee directly to the General Assembly at its forty-first session."

It was so decided (decision 1986/124).

AGENDA ITEM 7

**Population questions (concluded)
(E/1986/L.20/Rev.1)**

**DRAFT RESOLUTION E/1986/L.20/Rev.1
(CONCLUDED)**

62. Mr. RAHMAN (Bangladesh) said that his delegation agreed with the interpretation of the Secretary of the Council concerning the question of biennialization (see para. 37 above).

63. With regard to the financial implications, he felt that the estimate given was too high and that it would be more realistic to estimate the cost of a visit of five working days by one Secretariat official to Geneva in

1987. He would welcome the reaction of the Secretariat to that suggestion.

64. Mr. HACKETT (Department of International Economic and Social Affairs) said that the cost of a one-week visit to Geneva for one Secretariat official would be approximately \$2,400.

65. Mr. YAKOVLEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation supported draft resolution E/1986/L.20/Rev.1 provided that the financial implications incurred as a result of its adoption were met from existing resources.

66. Mr. STIRLING (United States of America) supported the statement made by the delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and said he hoped that it would be considered as the will of the Council.

67. Mr. WILLIS (United Kingdom) said that his delegation would join the consensus on the draft resolution if its adoption entailed no additional cost.

68. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt draft resolution E/1986/L.20/Rev.1.

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 1986/7).

69. Miss FRANKINET (Belgium) said that there were discrepancies between the English and French versions of the resolution, which should be corrected.

The meeting rose at 6.25 p.m.

17th meeting

Thursday, 22 May 1986, at 10.25 a.m.

President: Mr. Manuel DOS SANTOS (Mozambique)

E/1986/SR.17

AGENDA ITEM 14

Elections and nominations (continued)*

**COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
(E/1986/L.1)**

1. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect 11 members of the Commission for Social Development for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1987.

2. Ms. KIMBALL (Assistant Secretary of the Council) said that the following candidates had been endorsed by the regional groups: Ghana, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Togo for the four vacancies to be filled by African States; Bangladesh and Cyprus for the two vacancies to be filled by Asian States; the German Democratic Republic for the vacancy to be filled by an Eastern European State; Argentina and the Dominican Republic for the two vacancies to be filled by Latin American and Caribbean States; and Austria for one of the two vacancies to be filled by Western European and other States.

3. The PRESIDENT said that, since the number of candidates from each group was equal to or, in the case of the Western European and other States, less

than the number of vacancies to be filled by States from each group, he would take it that the Council wished to elect those candidates by acclamation and to postpone the election of one member from the Group of Western European and other States.

*It was so decided.***

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS (E/1986/L.1)

4. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect 14 members of the Commission on Human Rights for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1987.

5. Ms. KIMBALL (Assistant Secretary of the Council) said that the following candidates had been proposed by the regional groups: Rwanda, Senegal, Somalia and Togo for the four vacancies to be filled by African States; Afghanistan, Iraq, Pakistan, the Philippines and the Syrian Arab Republic for the three vacancies to be filled by Asian States; the German Democratic Republic and Yugoslavia for the two vacancies to be filled by Eastern European States; Brazil, Mexico and the Dominican Republic for the two vacancies to be filled by Latin American and Caribbean States; and Canada, France, Italy, Spain and the United States of America for the three vacancies to be filled by Western European and other States.

* Resumed from the 6th meeting.

** See decision 1986/150.

6. Mr. NASHASHIBI (Observer for Jordan) said that Jordan, as a member of the Commission on Human Rights, had sought re-election. In a spirit of co-operation with the Chairman of the Group of Asian States, however, it had withdrawn its candidacy and endorsed that of Iraq for one of the seats allocated to the group.

7. The PRESIDENT said that, since the number of candidates from African States and from Eastern European States was equal to the number of vacancies to be filled by States from those groups, he would take it that the Council wished to elect those candidates by acclamation.

*It was so decided.***

8. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect by secret ballot three members from the Group of Asian States, two members from the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States and three members from the Group of Western European and other States.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Belyaev (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) and Mr. Mintsa Zué Ondo (Gabon) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers:	53
Invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	53
Abstentions:	0
Number of members voting:	53
Required majority:	27
Number of votes obtained:	
Asian States:	
Pakistan.....	44
Iraq.....	34
Philippines.....	33
Syrian Arab Republic.....	23
Afghanistan.....	8

*Having obtained the required majority, Iraq, Pakistan and the Philippines were elected to the Commission on Human Rights for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1987.***

Latin American and Caribbean States:

Brazil.....	47
Mexico.....	42
Dominican Republic.....	15

*Having obtained the required majority, Brazil and Mexico were elected to the Commission on Human Rights for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1987.***

Western European and other States:

United States of America.....	38
France.....	34
Italy.....	29
Canada.....	26
Spain.....	25

*Having obtained the required majority, France, Italy and the United States of America were elected to the Commission on Human Rights for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1987.***

COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND CO-ORDINATION (E/1986/L.7)

9. The PRESIDENT said that, in accordance with its resolution 2008 (LX), the Council was required to make nominations for seven vacancies on the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination that would occur at the end of 1986. Members would be elected

by the General Assembly at its forty-first session for a term of three years beginning on 1 January 1987.

10. Ms. KIMBALL (Assistant Secretary of the Council) said that the following candidates had been proposed by the regional groups: Burkina Faso, Cameroon and Tunisia for the three vacancies to be filled by African States; China, India, Indonesia, Japan and Pakistan for the three vacancies to be filled by Asian States; and Brazil for the vacancy to be filled by a Latin American and Caribbean State.

11. The PRESIDENT noted that, in the case of the Group of Asian States, there were more candidates than there were vacancies to be filled by States from that group. When that had happened in the past, the Council had decided to nominate all the candidates, from among which the General Assembly would elect the appropriate number. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to nominate for election by the General Assembly at its forty-first session all the candidates proposed.

*It was so decided.***

COMMISSION ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (E/1986/L.3/REV.2)

12. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect 19 members of the Commission on Human Settlements for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1987.

13. Ms. KIMBALL (Assistant Secretary of the Council) said that the following candidates had been endorsed by the regional groups: Cameroon, Gabon, Madagascar, Sierra Leone, Togo and Uganda for the six vacancies to be filled by African States; Japan, Pakistan and the Philippines for three of the four vacancies to be filled by Asian States; Bulgaria and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics for the two vacancies to be filled by Eastern European States; Argentina, Brazil, Colombia and Ecuador for the four vacancies to be filled by Latin American and Caribbean States; and Finland, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States of America for the four vacancies to be filled by Western European and other States.

14. The PRESIDENT said that, since the number of candidates from each group was equal to or, in the case of the Asian States, less than the number of vacancies to be filled by States from each group, he would take it that the Council wished to elect those candidates by acclamation and to postpone the election of one member from the Group of Asian States.

*It was so decided.***

15. The PRESIDENT said that no candidates had been proposed for the remaining two vacancies to be filled by Asian States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1988. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to postpone those elections.

*It was so decided.***

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES (E/1986/L.6)

16. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect 27 members of the Committee on Natural Resources for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1987.

17. Ms. KIMBALL (Assistant Secretary of the Council) said that the following candidates had been endorsed by the regional groups: Nigeria, Togo,

Uganda and Zaire for four of the six vacancies to be filled by African States; Pakistan, the Philippines and Thailand for three of the six vacancies to be filled by Asian States; the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary and Poland for the four vacancies to be filled by Eastern European States; Bolivia and Cuba for the two vacancies to be filled by Latin American and Caribbean States; and Finland, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Sweden and the United States of America for five of the nine vacancies to be filled by Western European and other States.

18. The PRESIDENT said that, since the number of candidates from each group was equal to or, in the case of African, Asian and Western European and other States, less than the number of vacancies to be filled by States from each group, he would take it that the Council wished to elect those candidates by acclamation and to postpone the election of two members from the Group of African States, three members from the Group of Asian States and four members from the Group of Western European and other States.

*It was so decided.***

19. The PRESIDENT said that no candidates had been proposed to fill the remaining vacancies to be filled by Latin American and Caribbean States and Western European and other States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1988. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to postpone those elections again.

*It was so decided.***

COMMISSION ON TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS (E/1986/L.2)

20. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect 16 members of the Commission on Transnational Corporations for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1987.

21. Ms. KIMBALL (Assistant Secretary of the Council) said that the following candidates had been endorsed by the regional groups: Egypt, Sierra Leone, Tunisia and Zaire for the four vacancies to be filled by African States; China, Fiji and Japan for three of the four vacancies to be filled by Asian States; Czechoslovakia and the German Democratic Republic for the two vacancies to be filled by Eastern European States; Colombia, Peru and Suriname for the three vacancies to be filled by Latin American and Caribbean States; and France, the Federal Republic of Germany and Switzerland for the three vacancies to be filled by Western European and other States.

22. The PRESIDENT said that, since the number of candidates from each group was equal to or, in the case of the Asian States, less than the number of vacancies to be filled by States from each group, he would take it that the Council wished to elect those candidates by acclamation and to postpone the election of one member from the Group of Asian States.

*It was so decided.***

23. The PRESIDENT said that no candidate had been proposed for the vacancy to be filled by an Asian State for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1988. If he

heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to postpone that election.

*It was so decided.***

COMMITTEE ON FOOD AID POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES (E/1986/L.10)

24. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect five members of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1986.

25. Ms. KIMBALL (Assistant Secretary of the Council) said that the following candidates had been endorsed by the regional groups: Tunisia for the seat being vacated by one member of the Group of African States; India for the seat being vacated by one member of the Group of Asian States; Hungary for the seat being vacated by one member of the Group of Eastern European States; and Italy and Sweden for the seats being vacated by two members of the Group of Western European and other States.

26. The PRESIDENT said that since the number of candidates from each group was equal to the number of members retiring from those groups, he would take it that the Council wished to elect those candidates by acclamation.

*It was so decided.***

WORLD FOOD COUNCIL (E/1986/L.8/REV.1)

27. The PRESIDENT said that, in accordance with paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 3348 (XXIX), the Council was required to nominate candidates for 12 vacancies on the World Food Council that would occur on 31 December 1986. Members would be elected by the General Assembly at its forty-first session for a term of three years beginning on 1 January 1987.

28. Ms. KIMBALL (Assistant Secretary of the Council) said that the following candidates had been proposed: Burundi, Rwanda and Tunisia for the three vacancies to be filled by African States; India, Japan and Pakistan for the three vacancies to be filled by Asian States; Hungary for the vacancy to be filled by an Eastern European State; Argentina, Colombia and Guatemala for the two vacancies to be filled by Latin American and Caribbean States; and France, Italy and Sweden for the three vacancies to be filled by Western European and other States.

29. The PRESIDENT noted that the number of candidates from all groups, except the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States, was equal to the number of vacancies to be filled by States from those groups. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council, in accordance with the practice it had followed in the past, wished to nominate all the candidates proposed by the regional groups, from among which the General Assembly would select the appropriate number.

*It was so decided.***

ELECTIONS POSTPONED FROM PREVIOUS SESSIONS

30. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the vacancies in the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting, for which elections had been postponed from previous sessions (see E/1986/30).

31. The Secretariat had been informed by the secretariat of the Organization of African Unity that the Group of African States had endorsed the candidacies of Malawi, Tunisia and Uganda to fill the three vacancies for African States for terms beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1988. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to elect Malawi, Tunisia and Uganda by acclamation to fill those vacancies for the terms specified.

*It was so decided.***

32. The PRESIDENT said that the Secretariat had been informed by the Group of Western European and other States that the United States of America wished to withdraw from the Intergovernmental Working Group and that the candidacy of the Netherlands had been proposed to serve the remainder of the United States term, which would end on 31 December 1988. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to elect the Netherlands by acclamation to fill that vacancy for the term specified.

*It was so decided.***

33. The PRESIDENT suggested that, unless there were any additional candidacies for the vacancies in the Intergovernmental Working Group, elections to fill the remaining vacancies should be postponed to a future session.

*It was so decided.***

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN (E/1986/L.1)

34. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect 11 members of the Commission on the Status of Women for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1987.

35. Ms. KIMBALL (Assistant Secretary of the Council) said that the following candidates had been proposed by their regional groups: Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon and Zaire for the three vacancies to be filled by African States; Bangladesh and the Philippines for the two vacancies to be filled by Asian States; Czechoslovakia and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics for the two vacancies to be filled by Eastern European States; Mexico for the vacancy to be filled by the Latin American and Caribbean States; and Australia, Italy, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America for the three vacancies to be filled by Western European and other States.

36. The PRESIDENT said that, since the number of candidates from African, Asian, Eastern European and Latin American and Caribbean States was equal to the number of vacancies to be filled by States from those groups, he would take it that the Council wished to elect those candidates by acclamation.

*It was so decided.***

37. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect by secret ballot three members from the Group of Western European and other States.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. de Medeiros (Brazil) and Mr. Miyata (Japan) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	54
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	54
<i>Abstentions:</i>	1

<i>Number of members voting:</i>	53
<i>Required majority:</i>	27
<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
<i>Western European and other States:</i>	
Italy.....	46
United States of America	41
Australia	40
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	25

Having obtained the required majority, Australia, Italy and the United States of America were elected members of the Commission on the Status of Women for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1987.

COMMITTEE ON NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (E/1986/30, PARA. 14)

38. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect 19 members of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1987. He drew attention to rule 80 of the Council's rules of procedure, as amended by Council resolution 1981/50, which specified how many Committee members were to be elected from each regional group.

39. Ms. KIMBALL (Assistant Secretary of the Council) said that the following candidates had been proposed by the regional groups: Burundi, Kenya, Malawi, Rwanda and Sao Tome and Principe for the five vacancies to be filled by African States; Cyprus, Oman, Pakistan and Sri Lanka for the four vacancies to be filled by Asian States; Bulgaria and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics for the two vacancies to be filled by Eastern European States; Cuba, Costa Rica, Colombia and Nicaragua for the four vacancies to be filled by Latin American and Caribbean States; and France, Greece, Sweden, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America for the four vacancies to be filled by Western European and other States.

40. The PRESIDENT said that, since the number of candidates from African, Asian, Eastern European and Latin American and Caribbean States was equal to the number of vacancies to be filled by States from those groups, he would take it that the Council wished to elect those candidates by acclamation.

*It was so decided.***

41. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect by secret ballot four members from the Group of Western European and other States.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Belyaev (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) and Mr. Mintsa Zué Ondo (Gabon) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	54
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	0
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	54
<i>Abstentions:</i>	0
<i>Number of members voting:</i>	54
<i>Required majority:</i>	28
<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
<i>Western European and other States:</i>	
France.....	40
United States of America	39
Sweden	37
Greece.....	35
Turkey.....	26
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	23

*Having obtained the required majority, France, Greece, Sweden and the United States of America were elected members of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1987.***

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS (E/1986/48 AND ADD.1-4)

42. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect the members of the new Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights for a term beginning on 1 January 1987. Council resolution 1985/17 stipulated that the Council was to elect by secret ballot 18 members who were experts with recognized competence in the field of human rights, serving in their personal capacity, due consideration being given to equitable geographical distribution and to the representation of different forms of social and legal systems. To that end, 15 seats would be distributed equally among the regional groups, while the additional three seats would be allocated in accordance with the increase in the total number of States parties per regional group.

43. As there were currently 85 States parties to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, four seats each would be allocated to the Groups of African, Latin American and Caribbean and Western European and other States, and three seats each to the Groups of Asian and Eastern European States.

44. The names and curricula vitae of candidates were contained in document E/1986/48 and Add.1-4.

45. Although four candidates had been nominated for the three seats to be filled by Asian States, the Chairman of the Group of Asian States had informed the Secretariat that the Group had endorsed the candidates nominated by the Governments of Cyprus, Japan and the Syrian Arab Republic, while the Government of Lebanon had informed the Secretariat that it had withdrawn its candidate. The Chairman of the Group of Eastern European States had informed the Secretariat that it had endorsed all the candidates nominated for the Group.

46. Since the number of candidates from Asian, Eastern European and Latin American and Caribbean States was equal to the number of vacancies to be filled by experts from States belonging to those groups, he would take it that the Council wished to elect by acclamation Mr. Daoudi (Syrian Arab Republic), Ms. Taya (Japan) and Mr. Sparsis (Cyprus); Mr. Mratchkov (Bulgaria), Mr. Neneman (Poland) and Mr. Sviridov (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics); and Mr. Alvarez Vita (Peru), Mr. Marchán Romero (Ecuador), Mr. Rattray (Jamaica) and Mr. Wimer Zambrano (Mexico) to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

*It was so decided.***

47. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect by secret ballot four members from the Group of African States and four members from the Group of Western European and other States.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. de Medeiros (Brazil) and Mr. Miyata (Japan) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers: 54

Invalid ballots: 0

Number of valid ballots: 54

Abstentions: 0

Number of members voting: 54

Required majority: 28

Number of votes obtained:

African States:

Mr. Konate (Senegal)..... 39

Mr. Badawi El-Sheikh (Egypt)..... 38

Mr. Muterahjuru (Rwanda)..... 35

Mr. Fofana (Guinea)..... 32

Mrs. Warzazi (Morocco)..... 29

Mr. Rajaonarivony (Madagascar)..... 15

Mr. Buruin (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya).... 10

Mr. Tshikankie (Zaire)..... 8

Mr. Akakpovie (Togo)..... 6

Western European and other States:

Mr. Alston (Australia)..... 42

Mr. Simma (Federal Republic of Germany)..... 42

Mrs. Jiménez Butragueño (Spain)..... 41

Mr. Texier (France)..... 39

Mr. Helgesen (Norway)..... 30

*Having obtained the required majority and the largest number of votes in their respective groups, Mr. Badawi El-Sheikh (Egypt), Mr. Fofana (Guinea), Mr. Konate (Senegal) and Mr. Muterahjuru (Rwanda); and Mr. Alston (Australia), Mrs. Jiménez Butragueño (Spain), Mr. Simma (Federal Republic of Germany) and Mr. Texier (France) were elected members of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights for a term beginning on 1 January 1987.***

48. The PRESIDENT said that Council resolution 1985/17 also stipulated that one half of the membership of the Committee was to be renewed every second year, bearing in mind the need to maintain equitable geographical distribution. Immediately following the first elections, the President of the Council was to choose by lot the names of nine members whose term would expire at the end of two years. All other members would serve a four-year term expiring on 31 December 1990.

*Their names having been drawn by lot, Mr. Alvarez Vita (Peru), Mr. Fofana (Guinea), Mrs. Jiménez Butragueño (Spain), Mr. Konate (Senegal), Mr. Mratchkov (Bulgaria), Mr. Neneman (Poland), Mr. Rattray (Jamaica), Mr. Sparsis (Cyprus) and Mr. Texier (France) were chosen to serve on the Committee for a two-year term expiring on 31 December 1988.***

COMMITTEE ON CRIME PREVENTION AND CONTROL (E/1986/42 AND ADD.1 AND 2)

49. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect 14 members of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1987. He drew attention to document E/1986/42 and Add.1 and 2, which contained the names and curricula vitae of the candidates. The Chairman of the Group of Eastern European States had informed the Secretariat that it had endorsed both the candidates nominated for the Group.

50. Mr. KAŞEMSARN (Thailand) withdrew the candidate nominated by Thailand.

51. The PRESIDENT said that, since the number of candidates from Eastern European States was equal to the number of vacancies to be filled by experts from States belonging to that Group, he took it that the Council wished to elect by acclamation Dušan Cottić (Yugoslavia) and Aleksei Yakovlevich Kudryavtsev (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics).

*It was so decided.***

52. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect by secret ballot three members from the Group of African States.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Belyaev (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) and Mr. de Medeiros (Brazil) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers: 54

Invalid ballots: 0

Number of valid ballots: 54

Abstentions: 1

Number of members voting: 53

Required majority: 27

Number of votes obtained:

Hedi Fessi (Tunisia)..... 46

Albert Llewelyn Olawole Metzger

(Sierra Leone)..... 36

Lovemore Green Munlo (Malawi)..... 33

Victor Ramanitra (Madagascar)..... 33

*Having obtained the required majority and the largest number of votes, Hedi Fessi (Tunisia) and Albert Llewelyn Olawole Metzger (Sierra Leone) were elected members of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1987.***

53. The PRESIDENT said that a second vote with a restricted ballot would be taken at the 18th meeting to choose between Lovemore Green Munlo (Malawi) and Victor Ramanitra (Madagascar).

54. He invited the Council to elect by secret ballot three members from the Group of Asian States and three members from the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Belyaev (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) and Mr. de Medeiros (Brazil) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers: 54

Invalid ballots: 0

Number of valid ballots: 54

Abstentions: 0

Number of members voting: 54

Required majority: 28

Number of votes obtained:

Asian States:

Cheng Weiqiu (China)..... 49

Minoru Shikita (Japan)..... 48

Abdul Karim Nasution (Indonesia)..... 36

Cicero C. Campos (Philippines)..... 23

Latin American and Caribbean States:

Adolfo Luis Tamini (Argentina)..... 42

Jorge Arturo Montero (Costa Rica)..... 40

Manuel López-Rey y Arrojo (Bolivia).... 29

Mervyn Cleophas Holder (Barbados).... 25

Julio Peña Núñez (Chile)..... 21

Having obtained the required majority and the largest number of votes in their respective groups, Cheng Weiqiu (China), Abdul Karim Nasution (Indonesia) and Minoru Shikita (Japan); and Manuel López-Rey y Arrojo (Bolivia), Jorge Arturo Montero (Costa Rica) and Adolfo Luis Tamini (Argentina)

*were elected members of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1987.***

55. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect by secret ballot three members from the Group of Western European and other States.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Belyaev (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) and Mr. de Medeiros (Brazil) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers: 54

Invalid ballots: 2

Number of valid ballots: 52

Abstentions: 0

Number of members voting: 52

Required majority: 27

Number of votes obtained:

Eugène Jules Henri Frencken (Belgium) 32

Simone Andrée Rozes (France)..... 28

Roger S. Clark (New Zealand)..... 24

Frederick Edward Gibson (Canada)..... 24

Roland Miklau (Austria)..... 24

Joaquín Martín Canivell (Spain)..... 19

*Having obtained the required majority, Eugène Jules Henri Frencken (Belgium) and Simone Andrée Rozes (France) were elected members of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1987.***

56. The PRESIDENT said that, since none of the remaining candidates had obtained the required majority, a second vote with a restricted ballot would be taken at the 18th meeting to choose the third member from the Group of Western European and other States to be elected to the Committee.

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND (E/1986/L.5)

57. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect 10 members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund for a three-year term beginning on 1 August 1986.

58. Ms. KIMBALL (Assistant Secretary of the Council) said that the following candidates had been endorsed by the regional groups: Lesotho for the vacancy to be filled by an African State; China and Thailand for the two vacancies to be filled by Asian States; Poland for the vacancy to be filled by an Eastern European State; Colombia and Guyana for the two vacancies to be filled by Latin American and Caribbean States; and Canada, the Federal Republic of Germany, Norway and Turkey for the four vacancies to be filled by Western European and other States.

59. The PRESIDENT said that, since the number of candidates was equal to the number of vacancies to be filled by States from each group, he would take it that the Council wished to elect those candidates by acclamation.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 1.30 p.m.

18th meeting

Thursday, 22 May 1986, at 3.15 p.m.

President: Mr. Manuel DOS SANTOS (Mozambique)

E/1986/SR.18

AGENDA ITEM 14

Elections and nominations (concluded)

COMMITTEE ON CRIME PREVENTION AND CONTROL
(CONCLUDED) (E/1986/42 AND ADD.1 AND 2)

1. The PRESIDENT said that since, in the vote taken at the 17th meeting, there had been a tie between Mr. Munlo (Malawi) and Mr. Ramanitra (Madagascar) from the Group of African States, the Council would proceed to a special ballot to break the tie.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Belyaev (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) and Mr. Miyata (Japan) acted as tellers.

A second vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers:	51
Number of valid ballots:	51
Number of members voting:	51
Required majority:	26
Number of votes obtained:	
Mr. Ramanitra	26
Mr. Munlo	25

*Having obtained the required majority, Mr. Ramanitra (Madagascar) was elected a member of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1987.**

2. The PRESIDENT said that, in the case of the Group of Western European and other States, a special ballot was required to break the tie of 24 votes between Mr. Clark (New Zealand), Mr. Gibson (Canada) and Mr. Miklau (Austria).

At the invitation of the President, Mr. de Medeiros (Brazil) and Mr. Mintsa Zué Ondo (Gabon) acted as tellers.

A second vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers:	52
Number of valid ballots:	52
Number of members voting:	52
Required majority:	27
Number of votes obtained:	
Mr. Clark	24
Mr. Miklau	16
Mr. Gibson	12

Mr. Gibson (Canada) was eliminated from the special ballot.

3. The PRESIDENT said that the Council would now proceed to another ballot restricted to the two candidates who had obtained the highest number of votes, Mr. Clark (New Zealand) and Mr. Miklau (Austria).

At the invitation of the President, Mr. de Medeiros (Brazil) and Mr. Mintsa Zué Ondo (Gabon) acted as tellers.

A third vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers:	54
Number of valid ballots:	54
Abstentions:	1

*See decision 1986/150.

Number of members voting:	53
Required majority:	27
Number of votes obtained:	
Mr. Clark	34
Mr. Miklau	19

*Having obtained the required majority, Mr. Clark (New Zealand) was elected a member of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1987.**

GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
(E/1986/L.4 AND L.21)

4. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider decision 86/3 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme concerning the terms of office of members of the Governing Council, contained in document E/1986/L.21.

5. If there was no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the decision as recommended by the Governing Council.

*It was so decided.**

6. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect 16 members of the Governing Council for a three-year term beginning on the first day of the organizational session of the Governing Council, in February 1987.

7. Ms. KIMBALL (Assistant Secretary of the Council) said that the following candidates had been endorsed by the regional groups, and, in the case of the Group of African States, by the Organization of African Unity: Burkina Faso, Liberia and Sudan for the three vacancies to be filled by African States; the German Democratic Republic and Poland for the two vacancies to be filled by Eastern European States; Finland, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Netherlands, Switzerland and Turkey for the five vacancies to be filled by Western European and other States; Afghanistan, Fiji, India and Thailand for the three vacancies to be filled by Asian States and Yugoslavia; and Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador and Guatemala for the three vacancies to be filled by Latin American States.

8. The PRESIDENT said that since the number of candidates from African, Eastern European and Western European and other States was equal to the number of vacancies in those Groups, he took it that the Council wished to elect those candidates by acclamation.

*It was so decided.**

9. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect by secret ballot three members from the Group of Asian States and Yugoslavia.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. de Proost (Belgium) and Mr. Belyaev (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers:	54
Number of valid ballots:	54
Abstentions:	1

Number of members voting:	53
Required majority:	27
Number of votes obtained:	
India.....	46
Thailand	44
Fiji.....	40
Afghanistan.....	14

Having obtained the required majority, Fiji, India and Thailand were elected members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme for a three-year term beginning on the first day of the organizational session of the Governing Council, in February 1987.*

10. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect by secret ballot three members from the Group of Latin American States.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. de Proost (Belgium) and Mr. Belyaev (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.	
Number of ballot papers:	54
Number of valid ballots:	54
Number of members voting:	54
Required majority:	28
Number of votes obtained:	
Argentina	50
Colombia	43
Ecuador	39
Guatemala	23

Having obtained the required majority, Argentina, Colombia and Ecuador were elected to the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme for a three-year term beginning on the first day of the organizational session of the Governing Council, in February 1987.*

INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD (E/1986/5, E/1986/51 AND E/1986/52)

11. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect seven members of the International Narcotics Control Board for a term of five years beginning on 2 March 1987. There would be separate ballots for the election of the two members from the candidates nominated by the World Health Organization and for the election of the five members from among the candidates nominated by Governments, respectively.

12. He invited the Council to proceed to the election of two members from the candidates nominated by the Director-General of the World Health Organization, as indicated in document E/1986/51.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. de Proost (Belgium) and Mr. Mintsu Zué Ondo (Gabon) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.	
Number of ballot papers:	54
Number of valid ballots:	54
Number of members voting:	54
Required majority:	28
Number of votes obtained:	
Dr. Kayaalp.....	33
Mr. Atmodjo	22
Dr. de la Fuente	19
Dr. Arif.....	13
Dr. González	11
Dr. Chrusciel	7

Having obtained the required majority, Dr. Kayaalp (Turkey), was elected a member of the United Nations

International Narcotics Control Board for a five-year term beginning on 2 March 1987.*

A vote was taken by secret ballot for the remaining vacancy.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. de Proost (Belgium) and Mr. Mintsu Zué Ondo (Gabon) acted as tellers.

Number of ballot papers:	54
Number of valid ballots:	54
Number of members voting:	54
Required majority:	28
Number of votes obtained:	
Mr. Atmodjo	41
Dr. de la Fuente	13

Having obtained the required majority, Mr. Atmodjo (Indonesia), was elected a member of the United Nations International Narcotics Control Board for a five-year term beginning on 2 March 1987.*

13. The PRESIDENT invited members to elect five members from the list of candidates submitted by Governments, as contained in document E/1986/52, minus the names of Dr. Ardjoboesono, Mr. von Arnim, Mr. Atmodjo, Dr. Bulaev and Dr. Kayaalp, whose candidatures had been withdrawn.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. de Medeiros (Brazil) and Mr. Miyata (Japan) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.	
Number of ballot papers:	54
Number of valid ballots:	54
Number of members voting:	54
Required majority:	28
Number of votes obtained:	
Ms. Gough	27
Dr. Velásquez Quevedo	26
Dr. Barkov.....	25
Mr. Elmi	24
Mr. Reuter.....	21
Mr. Stewart	21
Dr. Chkili	13
Mr. Suárez de Puga y Villegas	13
Mr. Cutting	11
Mr. Donald M. Smith	9
Dr. Beaubrun.....	8
Dr. Rexed	7
Ms. Villalobos de Barquero	7
Mr. Ouattara	5
U Tin Pe	5
Mr. Wieniawski	5
Mr. Osman.....	4
Dr. Al-Boustany.....	3
Mr. Böls.....	3
Mr. Supnet.....	2
Dr. Bachini Berrutti	1
Ms. Escobar de Andrade	1
Dr. Farjad.....	1
Ms. Rosal de Rodriguez.....	0
Mr. Van Rooyen	0
Mr. Toma Sanchis	0
Mr. Lionel S. Smith.....	0

No candidate having obtained the required majority, a second vote was taken by secret ballot among the 10 candidates who had obtained the highest number of votes in the first ballot.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. de Medeiros (Brazil) and Mr. Miyata (Japan) acted as tellers.

Number of ballot papers:	54
Number of valid ballots:	54
Number of members voting:	54

Required majority:	28
Number of votes obtained:	
Dr. Velásquez Quevedo	38
Mr. Elmi	34
Dr. Barkov	31
Ms. Gough	28
Mr. Reuter	28
Mr. Stewart	24
Mr. Suárez de Puga y Villegas	15
Mr. Cutting	13
Mr. Donald M. Smith	13
Dr. Chkili	12

*Dr. Velásquez Quevedo (Peru), Mr. Elmi (Somalia), Dr. Barkov (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Ms. Gough (United States of America) and Mr. Reuter (France) were elected members of the International Narcotics Control Board for a five-year term beginning on 2 March 1987.**

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN (E/1986/47 AND ADD.1)

14. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to appoint three members of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) to fill the vacancies that would be created by the expiration of the term of three members on 30 June 1986.

15. The Board of Trustees consisted of 11 members nominated by States and appointed by the Council with due regard for the principle of equitable geographical distribution and for the fact that the Institute and its work were funded by voluntary contributions. The members of the Board served in their individual capacities for a term of three years and were eligible for reappointment for one further term. Information concerning the membership of the Board and the names and curricula vitae of the candidates nominated by States for the vacancies were contained in document E/1986/47 and Add.1.

16. Since there was only one person nominated from Western European and other States, namely, Inés Alberdi (Spain), he would take it that the Council agreed to appoint Inés Alberdi to the Board of Trustees by acclamation and to proceed to elect by secret ballot one member from among the nominees from the African States and Latin American and Caribbean States, since the number of persons nominated exceeded the number of seats being vacated by members from those groups.

17. Mr. SAMUDIO (Panama), supported by Mr. SINCLAIR (Guyana), said he would like to know how many seats there were for each region, noting that the candidate of Spain was the only candidate for one of them. He wondered how electing Spain's candidate by acclamation would be consistent with the principle of equitable geographical distribution.

18. The PRESIDENT drew attention in that connection to document E/1986/47, paragraph 4.

*Inés Alberdi (Spain) was elected a member of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women for a three-year term beginning on 1 July 1986 by acclamation.**

19. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect by secret ballot one member from the candidates proposed by the African States.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Belyaev (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) and Mr. Miyata (Japan) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers: 54

Number of valid ballots: 54

Number of members voting: 54

Required majority: 28

Number of votes obtained:

Ms. Siga Seye

Ms. Tawhida O. Hadra

Ms. Feiza Kefi

Ms. Djimrassengar Nadjilem

*Having obtained the required majority, Ms. Seye (Senegal) was elected a member of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women for a three-year term beginning on 1 July 1986.**

20. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect, by secret ballot, one member from the candidates proposed by the Latin American and Caribbean States.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Belyaev (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) and Mr. Miyata (Japan) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers: 54

Number of valid ballots: 54

Number of members voting: 54

Required majority: 28

Number of votes obtained:

Ms. Torrijos de Arosemena

Ms. Patterson

Having obtained the required majority, Ms. Torrijos de Arosemena (Panama) was elected a member of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women for a three-year term beginning on 1 July 1986.

AGENDA ITEM 1

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (continued)

DRAFT RESOLUTION E/1986/L.23/REV.1 (CONTINUED)**

21. Mr. MAKSIMOV (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic), speaking on behalf of the sponsors of draft resolution E/1986/L.23/Rev.1, said that they had made considerable compromises and had deleted nearly all the provisions which had given rise to objections. They had agreed to delete the first, fourth and sixth preambular paragraphs, most of paragraph 1—which would then read “Supports the proclamation by the General Assembly of 1986 as the International Year of Peace”—and paragraph 4. They hoped that the Council would be able to adopt the draft resolution by consensus.

22. Mr. STIRLING (United States of America) recalled that his proposals had been that all the preambular paragraphs save the seventh should be deleted, that paragraph 1 should end with the words “International Year of Peace” and that paragraphs 4, 5 and 6 should be deleted. His delegation stood by all those proposals.

** Resumed from the 16th meeting.

23. Mr. MAKSIMOV (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) said that the representative of the United States seemed to feel that no change had been made. If that was the case, the sponsors would have to press for a decision on the draft resolution. To delete the entire preamble and three of the operative paragraphs would be too much. Such one-sided demands could not be accepted in a democratic body such as the Council.
24. Mr. STIRLING (United States of America) said that a draft resolution was not submitted in a vacuum. His delegation's views on the text had been affected by the comments and attacks to which his delegation had been subjected at the current session, even under items in the discussion of which his delegation generally took no part, namely, those relating to the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and the International Covenants on Human Rights. Now his delegation was being asked to join in the consensus on the subject of peace, and it felt that it would not be very appropriate to do so. He knew that the Council regretted having divisive political issues brought before it, particularly when they related to East-West matters; however, as he had pointed out earlier, the draft resolution had been drawn up within the East-West context.
25. Mr. ONONAIYE (Nigeria) stressed the importance of adopting the draft resolution by consensus. It would be most unfortunate if the Council was forced to vote on a draft resolution on the subject of peace.
26. Mr. TROUVEROY (Belgium) endorsed the view of the representative of Nigeria. The sponsors had a responsibility to bring about a peaceful resolution of the discussion on so important a subject.
27. Mr. MAKSIMOV (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) said that the sponsors had the impression that the United States did not want a resolution referring to Council decision 1986/115. However, according to that decision, the Council must consider the issue in 1986, and it was in conformity with that decision that his delegation had submitted the draft resolution. Perhaps the United States delegation should say openly that it did not want a draft resolution at all on the subject.
28. Mr. BRAUN (Federal Republic of Germany) said that it had been his delegation's understanding that the decision adopted at the organizational session would be the only one on the subject. He had therefore been rather surprised to hear what the representative of the Byelorussian SSR had said. His delegation had participated in the negotiations on the draft resolution, and agreement had almost been reached on a text. The revised draft resolution seemed to put the situation back to where it had been at the start of negotiations. His delegation could not approve the text and appealed to the sponsors to drop their proposal as it did not wish to vote on the subject of peace.
29. Miss YOUNG (United Kingdom) said that her delegation had some difficulty with the text and even more with the current revised text. It would be a pity

if the Council was forced to vote on such a subject. Any text that was not adopted by consensus would not be helpful.

30. Mr. MAKSIMOV (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) introduced a new compromise version which incorporated the following changes: in the preamble part of the draft resolution (E/1986/L.23/Rev.1), the first, fourth and sixth paragraphs would be deleted, and the fifth preambular paragraph would simply read: "*Recalling* the provisions of the Proclamation of the International Year of Peace approved by the General Assembly,". In the operative part of the draft resolution, paragraph 1 would read: "*Supports* the proclamation by the General Assembly of 1986 as the International Year of Peace,". Paragraph 3 would read "*Considers* that those efforts, as well as the universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, will contribute to international peace and co-operation,". Paragraph 5 would be renumbered paragraph 4. Paragraph 6 would be renumbered paragraph 5 and reworded to read: "*Calls upon* Member States, as well as organs and subsidiary bodies of the United Nations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, educational, scientific, cultural and research institutions and their communications media to commemorate the International Year of Peace in the most appropriate form, highlighting, *inter alia*, the role of the United Nations in the promotion and maintenance of international peace and security."

31. Mr. STIRLING (United States of America) said that his delegation would not call for a vote on the draft resolution and would join in the consensus. His delegation appreciated the co-operation extended by other delegations and was grateful for the opportunity that it had been afforded to express its views.

32. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council agreed to adopt by consensus draft resolution E/1986/L.23/Rev.1, in the orally revised form which had just been presented by the representative of the Byelorussian SSR.

It was so decided (resolution 1986/15).

AGENDA ITEM 10

United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons

REPORT OF THE SECOND (SOCIAL) COMMITTEE (E/1986/93)

33. The PRESIDENT said that the Council had before it the report of its Second (Social) Committee on agenda item 10 (E/1986/93). In paragraph 5 of the report, the Committee recommended to the Council for adoption a draft resolution on the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons.

34. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council decided to adopt the draft resolution.

It was so decided (resolution 1986/16).

The meeting rose at 7.20 p.m.

19th meeting

Friday, 23 May 1986, at 10.30 a.m.

President: Mr. Manuel DOS SANTOS (Mozambique)

E/1986/SR.19*

AGENDA ITEM 1

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (*concluded*)

CONVENTION ON THE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES OF THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES: DRAFT ANNEX RELATING TO THE UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (*CONCLUDED*)** (E/1986/45, E/1986/57, E/1986/75)

1. Mr. HANTKE (Federal Republic of Germany) proposed that paragraph 3 of the draft annex to the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies relating to the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (see E/1986/45, para. 8) should be deleted and that consideration of the remaining paragraphs should be deferred to the Council's second regular session of 1986.

It was so decided (decision 1986/131).

2. Miss AYORINDE (Nigeria), supported by Mr. TANASA (Romania), Mr. ZAHID (Morocco) and Mr. ZIADA (Iraq), proposed that explanations of vote should be heard only after the Council had considered and voted on all the draft resolutions and decisions under agenda items 11 and 9.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 11

Advancement of women

REPORT OF THE SECOND (SOCIAL) COMMITTEE (E/1986/94)

3. The PRESIDENT said that the Council had before it the report of its Second (Social) Committee on agenda item 11 (E/1986/94). In paragraph 35 of the report, the Committee recommended to the Council for adoption 16 draft resolutions, namely: I, "Elimination of discrimination against women and exercise of all their rights"; II, "Violence in the family"; III, "Women in the United Nations"; IV, "Participation of women in promoting international peace and co-operation"; V, "Palestinian women"; VI, "Women and children under *apartheid*"; VII, "Namibia"; VIII, "Front-line States"; IX, "Measures of assistance provided to South African, Namibian and agee women"; X, "Elderly women"; XI, "Role of women in society"; XII, "Implementation of the Arusha Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of African Women Beyond the United Nations Decade for Women"; XIII, "Physical violence against detained women that is specific to their sex"; XIV, "Implications of the Forward-looking Strategies for the programme planning system and the programme of future work of the Commission on the

*Incorporating document E/1986/SR.19/Add.1, containing explanations of vote made after 3.35 p.m.

**Resumed from the 12th meeting.

Status of Women"; XV, "National machinery to promote the advancement of women"; XVI, "International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women".

4. He invited the Council to take action on the draft resolutions.

DRAFT RESOLUTIONS I, II, III AND IV

Draft resolutions I, II, III and IV were adopted (resolutions 1986/17, 1986/18, 1986/19 and 1986/20).

DRAFT RESOLUTION V

5. The PRESIDENT said that paragraph 2 of draft resolution V had been adopted in the Second (Social) Committee by 43 votes to 1, with 8 abstentions.

A recorded vote was taken on paragraph 2 of draft resolution V.

In favour: Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Djibouti, Egypt, Finland, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Guinea, Guyana, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Uganda, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zimbabwe.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Federal Republic of Italy, Japan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Paragraph 2 of draft resolution V was adopted by 43 votes to 1, with 8 abstentions.

6. The PRESIDENT said that paragraph 4 of the draft resolution had been adopted in the Second (Social) Committee by 41 votes to 1, with 9 abstentions.

A recorded vote was taken on paragraph 4 of draft resolution V.

In favour: Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Djibouti, Egypt, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Guinea, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Uganda, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zimbabwe.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of Italy, Iceland, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Paragraph 4 of draft resolution V was adopted by 41 votes to 1, with 10 abstentions.

7. The PRESIDENT said that the draft resolution as a whole had been adopted in the Second (Social) Committee by 44 votes to 1, with 7 abstentions.

A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution V as a whole.

In favour: Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Djibouti, Egypt, Finland, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Guinea, Guyana, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Uganda, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zimbabwe.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Italy, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Draft resolution V as a whole was adopted by 44 votes to 1, with 7 abstentions (resolution 1986/21).

DRAFT RESOLUTION VI

8. The PRESIDENT said that paragraph 6 of draft resolution VI had been adopted in the Second (Social) Committee by 43 votes to 3, with 5 abstentions.

A recorded vote was taken on paragraph 6 of draft resolution VI.

In favour: Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Djibouti, Egypt, Finland, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Guinea, Guyana, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Uganda, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zimbabwe.

Against: Germany, Federal Republic of, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Italy, Japan.

Paragraph 6 of draft resolution VI was adopted by 43 votes to 3, with 6 abstentions.

9. The PRESIDENT said that draft resolution VI as a whole had been adopted in the Second (Social) Committee by 44 votes to 2, with 6 abstentions.

A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution VI as a whole.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Djibouti, Egypt, Finland, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Guinea, Guyana, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Uganda, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zimbabwe.

Against: United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Italy, Japan.

Draft resolution VI as a whole was adopted by 44 votes to 2, with 6 abstentions (resolution 1986/22).

DRAFT RESOLUTION VII

10. The PRESIDENT said that draft resolution VII had been adopted in the Second (Social) Committee by 44 votes to 1, with 7 abstentions.

A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution VII.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Djibouti, Egypt, Finland, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Guinea, Guyana, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Uganda, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zimbabwe.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Italy, Japan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Draft resolution VII was adopted by 44 votes to 1, with 7 abstentions (resolution 1986/23).

DRAFT RESOLUTION VIII

11. The PRESIDENT said that draft resolution VIII had been adopted in the Second (Social) Committee by 42 votes to 1, with 8 abstentions.

A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution VIII.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Djibouti, Egypt, Finland, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Guinea, Guyana, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Uganda, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zimbabwe.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Italy, Japan, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Draft resolution VIII was adopted by 43 votes to 1, with 8 abstentions (resolution 1986/24).

DRAFT RESOLUTION IX

12. The PRESIDENT said that draft resolution IX had been adopted in the Second (Social) Committee by 43 votes to 1, with 8 abstentions.

A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution IX.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Djibouti, Egypt, Finland, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Guinea, Guyana, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Uganda,

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zimbabwe.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Italy, Japan, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Draft resolution IX was adopted by 43 votes to 1, with 8 abstentions (resolution 1986/25).

DRAFT RESOLUTIONS X, XI, XII, XIII, XIV, XV AND XVI

Draft resolutions X, XI, XII, XIII, XIV, XV and XVI were adopted (resolutions 1986/26, 1986/27, 1986/28, 1986/29, 1986/30, 1986/31 and 1986/32).

CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS X AND XVII RECOMMENDED BY THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN AT ITS THIRTY-FIRST SESSION (E/1986/24 AND CORR.1 AND 2, CHAP. I, SECT. A)

13. The PRESIDENT said that the Second (Social) Committee had decided to defer until the second regular session of 1986 its consideration of draft resolution X ("Updating of the world survey on the role of women in development") and draft resolution XVII ("System-wide medium-term plan for women and development and system-wide co-ordination of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women"), as stated in paragraphs 23 and 31 of its report (E/1986/94), that the Commission on the Status of Women had recommended, *inter alia*, at its thirty-first session, for adoption by the Council (E/1986/24, para. 1).

14. He suggested that the Council should defer consideration of both draft resolutions until the second regular session of 1986.

It was so decided (decision 1986/132).

15. The PRESIDENT said that the Arabic and Russian versions of the document needed to begin consideration of agenda item 9 were not yet ready to be distributed, but would be shortly.

16. Miss BARKER-HARLAND (United Kingdom) suggested that the Council might wish to hear some explanations of vote on item 11 while waiting for the document to be distributed.

It was so decided.

EXPLANATIONS OF VOTE

17. Miss BARKER-HARLAND (United Kingdom) said that her delegation would like to stress the concern which it had expressed at the adoption by the Commission on the Status of Women of draft resolutions V to IX, which did not have direct implications specific to women and should more appropriately be dealt with elsewhere. Such resolutions increased the politicization of the Commission, diminished its role as a focal organ of the United Nations for issues specific to women and jeopardized its ability to tackle the important work which it was mandated to carry out.

18. Mr. AMSELEM (United States of America) said that his delegation had voted against paragraphs 2 and 4 of draft resolution V and against the text as a whole because it was one-sided and did not help to solve the serious problems existing in the Middle East. Only a comprehensive settlement respecting the

right of all men and women—including the right of Israeli men and women—to live in safety would bring peace to that troubled area. With regard to draft resolution VI, he said that the United States firmly opposed the odious régime of *apartheid*. However, it must be dismantled in a manner which did not cause additional suffering to the people of South Africa and their neighbours, who depended to a considerable extent on the South African economy for their well-being. His delegation deeply regretted that the extreme and strident wording of the resolution adopted had forced the United States to vote against it.

19. Mr. QUINN (Australia) said that his delegation had supported draft resolution VI; it had abstained, however, on paragraph 6 because, while Australia was in favour of mandatory economic sanctions, support for comprehensive sanctions went beyond current Australian policy. He expressed the hope that the Commission on the Status of Women would give priority in 1987 to the programme planning and budgeting issues listed in paragraphs 2 (a) to 2 (d) of draft resolution XIV, which had just been adopted.

20. Mr. LEE (Canada) said, with regard to the resolutions dealing with southern Africa, that his country's strong views on the subject of *apartheid* and its support for the efforts of countries and peoples in that part of the world were well known. Some of the specific wording and the tone of the resolutions, however, went further than seemed appropriate. Canada had therefore abstained in the voting on the resolutions in question.

21. Mr. BRAUN (Federal Republic of Germany) said that his delegation had abstained in the voting on draft resolutions V to IX. The views of his delegation on *apartheid*, South Africa and Palestine were well known. However, the texts in question presented a somewhat distorted picture of the issues and contributed to further politicization of the Commission on the Status of Women.

22. The PRESIDENT said that any other delegations wishing to explain their votes on the resolutions under agenda item 11 would have an opportunity to do so later.

AGENDA ITEM 9

Human rights

REPORT OF THE SECOND (SOCIAL) COMMITTEE (E/1986/95)

23. The PRESIDENT said that the Council had before it the report of its Second (Social) Committee on agenda item 9 (E/1986/95). In paragraph 52 of the report, the Committee recommended to the Council for adoption 11 draft resolutions, namely: I, "Documentation of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities"; II, "Study of the problem of discrimination against indigenous populations"; III, "Procedure for the election of members of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities"; IV, "Summary or arbitrary executions"; V, "Question of a draft declaration on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups and organs of society to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms"; VI, "Study on amnesty laws"; VII, "Situation in Equato-

rial Guinea"; VIII, "Question of a convention on the rights of the child"; IX, "Realization of the right to adequate housing"; X, "Status of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide"; XI, "Use of mercenaries as a means to violate human rights and to impede the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination".

24. He invited the Council to take action on the draft resolutions.

DRAFT RESOLUTIONS I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII AND VIII

Draft resolutions I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII and VIII were adopted (resolutions 1986/33, 1986/34, 1986/35, 1986/36, 1986/37, 1986/38, 1986/39 and 1986/40).

DRAFT RESOLUTION IX

A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution IX.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Djibouti, Egypt, Finland, France, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Uganda, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zimbabwe.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Germany, Federal Republic of, United States of America.

Draft resolution IX was adopted by 51 votes to none, with 2 abstentions (resolution 1986/41).

DRAFT RESOLUTION X

Draft resolution X was adopted (resolution 1986/42).

DRAFT RESOLUTION XI

25. Miss AYORINDE (Nigeria) proposed that, in the second preambular paragraph, the word "national" should be inserted before the words "liberation movements".

It was so decided.

A recorded vote was taken on the fourth preambular paragraph.

In favour: Bangladesh, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, China, Djibouti, Egypt, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zimbabwe.

Against: Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Italy, Japan, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Finland, Iceland, Jamaica, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Sweden, Turkey, Venezuela.

The fourth preambular paragraph was adopted by 31 votes to 11, with 11 abstentions.

A recorded vote was taken on paragraph 6.

In favour: Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, China, Djibouti, Egypt, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zimbabwe.

Against: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Colombia, Costa Rica, Jamaica, Panama, Philippines, Turkey.

Paragraph 6 was adopted by 34 votes to 13, with 6 abstentions.

A recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution as a whole.

In favour: Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Djibouti, Egypt, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zimbabwe.

Against: Belgium, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Italy, Japan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Canada, Finland, Iceland, Jamaica, Spain, Sweden, Turkey.

Draft resolution XI was adopted by 38 votes to 7, with 8 abstentions (resolution 1986/43).

26. The PRESIDENT said that in paragraph 53 of the report (E/1986/95) the Second (Social) Committee recommended to the Council for adoption 16 draft decisions, namely: I, "The right to development"; II, "Implementation of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief"; III, "Situation of human rights in El Salvador"; IV, "Question of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Afghanistan"; V, "Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran"; VI, "Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment"; VII, "Question of enforced or involuntary disappearances"; VIII, "Situation of human rights in Guatemala"; IX, "Organization of the work of the Commission on Human Rights"; X, "General decision concerning the establishment of a working group of the Commission on Human Rights to examine situations referred to the Commission under Economic and Social Council resolution 1503 (XLVIII) and those situations of which the Commission is seized"; XI, "Situation of human rights in Chile"; XII, "Report of the Commission on Human Rights"; XIII, "Adverse consequences for the enjoyment of human rights of political, military, economic and other forms of assistance given to the racist and colonialist régime of South Africa"; XIV, "Right of

peoples to self-determination and its application to peoples under colonial or alien domination or foreign occupation"; XV, "Materials on human rights in the Philippines"; XVI, "Situation in southern Lebanon". 27. He invited the Council to take action on the draft decisions.

DRAFT DECISION I

A recorded vote was taken on draft decision I.

In favour: Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Djibouti, Egypt, France, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Italy, Jamaica, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Uganda, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zimbabwe.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Finland, Germany, Federal Republic of, Iceland, Japan, Papua New Guinea, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Draft decision I was adopted by 42 votes to 1, with 10 abstentions (decision 1986/133).

DRAFT DECISION II

A recorded vote was taken on draft decision II.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Federal Republic of, Guinea, Haiti, Iceland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela, Zaire.

Against: Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, German Democratic Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Abstaining: China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda, Yugoslavia, Zimbabwe.

Draft decision II was adopted by 30 votes to 3, with 18 abstentions (decision 1986/134).

DRAFT DECISION III

Draft decision III was adopted (decision 1986/135).

DRAFT DECISION IV

28. Mr. NENGRAHARY (Observer for Afghanistan) said that his delegation continued to hold the view that no valid reason existed to justify an investigation of the human rights situation in Afghanistan. The so-called reports prepared by an individual about whose competence his delegation had not changed its views revealed the political motives of the enemies of the people and revolutionary Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. The document which had unfortunately been placed before the Council again was part of a campaign of lies and insinuations against Afghanistan and was merely an echo of the psychological war being waged against his country by imperialism. He

offered several examples to show the partial, unfair and tendentious nature of the so-called report, noting that the author had accused the representatives of Afghanistan of lying about the number of Afghan refugees. His delegation rejected such groundless judgements. With regard to Afghans living abroad, his Government's policy remained unchanged. A report submitted by Babrak Karmal, member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and President of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, to the extraordinary plenary session of the Revolutionary Council on 9 November 1985 had stated that the doors of the homeland were open to all compatriots living abroad and that they would be given every opportunity, with full guarantee of security, without any discrimination and with due respect for human dignity, to join the efforts to build a prosperous and independent Afghanistan.

29. The so-called Rapporteur had attempted to downplay the importance of the *Loya Jirgah*, or Supreme Council, and the local *jirgahs*, and had remained silent on the free and democratic local elections which had been held and which constituted the basis for the direct participation of the entire Afghan people in the conduct of public affairs.

30. The author of the so-called report had called into question the sincerity of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in acceding to a number of international human rights instruments. His delegation rejected such accusations and declared that Afghanistan had implemented those instruments by incorporating their relevant provisions into national legislation and by respecting them in its actions.

31. The so-called Rapporteur had ignored the achievements of the Afghan people in various social and economic fields, and had included lies and fabrications in his so-called report in order to satisfy imperialist circles and their local reactionary allies.

32. Mr. GONDJOUT (Gabon), speaking on a point of order, said that he understood that the Council had taken a decision that speakers should make their statements after the voting.

33. The PRESIDENT said that it had been the practice of the Council to give a delegation, in particular an observer delegation, an opportunity to speak before a vote which directly concerned the country which it represented.

34. Mr. NENGRAHARY (Observer for Afghanistan), continuing his statement, expressed indignation at the manner in which the report discussed medical services and the right to health in his country. Medical schools in Afghanistan were in fact quite active, as demonstrated by the fact that the number of doctors and medical personnel graduating in 1985 alone was nearly a third of all graduates during the 50 years preceding the April Revolution. The report had also attempted to downplay the importance of the Red Crescent in Afghanistan and had accused the Afghan Government of using Red Crescent supplies for its own purposes. However, a delegation from the League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies which had visited Afghanistan in April 1986 had disproved those lies.

35. It was thus clear that the people of Afghanistan had opted for independence, progress, economic and social development and scrupulous respect for human rights. The Council must consider the real violations of human rights: the barbarous acts of

gangs of mercenaries, trained, financed and armed chiefly by United States imperialism. His delegation had consistently brought such crimes to the international community's attention, and he now wished to state that, during 1985, mercenaries and terrorists, under direct orders from the CIA, had destroyed an Afghan civilian aircraft with American ground-to-air missiles, killing 52 persons, including children, women and old people.

36. Mr. WAKE (United States of America), speaking on a point of order, asked whether the Observer for Afghanistan was truly exercising the right normally given to observers to speak in connection with a proposal; he in fact appeared to be reopening the general debate on human rights which had been concluded several days earlier in the Second (Social) Committee, a debate which the Committee had decided not to pursue in plenary meetings of the Council. While his delegation had gone along with the extraordinary decision to depart from the rules of procedure and defer all explanations of vote until action had been taken on all draft proposals (a decision which, it was to be hoped, would not set a precedent), the Council ought to act consistently and ask observers, too, to wait until voting was completed before speaking.

37. The PRESIDENT explained that, as the Observer for Afghanistan was not a member of the Council, and thus was unable to vote, he was not speaking in explanation of vote; consequently, the Council's decision did not apply in that case.

38. Mr. NENGRAHARY (Observer for Afghanistan) concluded by saying that, since the self-styled defenders of human rights and opponents of terrorism had, in fact, committed unpardonable crimes in violation of all international norms and principles, his delegation categorically rejected the draft decision before the Council, which it considered devoid of any validity whatsoever.

39. The PRESIDENT said that the Second (Social) Committee had adopted draft decision IV by a recorded vote of 36 to 7, with 5 abstentions.

A recorded vote was taken on draft decision IV.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Djibouti, Egypt, France, Gabon, Germany, Federal Republic of, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Iceland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Morocco, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela.

Against: Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, German Democratic Republic, India, Poland, Romania, Syrian Arab Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Abstaining: Finland, Iraq, Nigeria, Sri Lanka, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zimbabwe.

Draft decision IV was adopted by 37 votes to 7, with 7 abstentions (decision 1986/136).

DRAFT DECISION V

40. The PRESIDENT said that draft decision V had been adopted in the Second (Social) Committee by a recorded vote of 24 to 7, with 13 abstentions.

A recorded vote was taken on draft decision V.

In favour: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Costa Rica, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Iceland, Iraq, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Spain, Sweden, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela.

Against: Bangladesh, Indonesia, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey.

Abstaining: Argentina, Brazil, Egypt, Gabon, Guyana, Haiti, India, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zimbabwe.

Draft decision V was adopted by 21 votes to 7, with 19 abstentions (decision 1986/137).

DRAFT DECISIONS VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XI AND XII

Draft decisions VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XI and XII were adopted (decisions 1986/138, 1986/139, 1986/140, 1986/141, 1986/142, 1986/143 and 1986/144).

DRAFT DECISION XIII

41. The PRESIDENT said that draft decision XIII had been adopted in the Second (Social) Committee by a recorded vote of 32 to 7, with 6 abstentions.

A recorded vote was taken on draft decision XIII.

In favour: Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Djibouti, Egypt, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Uganda, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zimbabwe.

Against: Belgium, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Italy, Japan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Canada, Finland, Iceland, Spain, Sweden.

Draft decision XIII was adopted by 41 votes to 7, with 6 abstentions (decision 1986/145).

DRAFT DECISION XIV

42. The PRESIDENT said that draft decision XIV had been adopted by the Second (Social) Committee by 39 votes to 6, with 3 abstentions.

43. Mr. BUI XUAN NHAT (Observer for Viet Nam) said that the draft decision before the Council had no bearing on the actual situation in the People's Republic of Kampuchea. Rather, it presented a stark picture by grossly distorting facts for political reasons. If adopted, the draft decision would only subject the Kampuchean people once again to the same violations of human rights they had suffered under the genocidal régime.

44. The draft decision failed to take the views of all the parties concerned into account and constituted a stumbling-block to the incipient dialogue in South-East Asia and to a negotiated settlement of the problems of the region. Adoption of the draft decision would thus constitute interference in the internal affairs of a sovereign State and be contrary to the aims of the United Nations in the field of human

rights. His delegation considered the draft decision to be devoid of any validity whatsoever and urged the Council to vote against it.

A recorded vote was taken on draft decision XIV.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Djibouti, Egypt, France, Gabon, Germany, Federal Republic of, Guinea, Haiti, Iceland, Indonesia, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire.

Against: Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, German Democratic Republic, India, Poland, Syrian Arab Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Abstaining: Finland, Iraq, Uganda, Zimbabwe.

Draft decision XIV was adopted by 41 votes to 6, with 4 abstentions (decision 1986/146).

DRAFT DECISION XV

45. The PRESIDENT announced that Uruguay had become a sponsor of draft decision XV.

Draft decision XV was adopted (decision 1986/147).

DRAFT DECISION XVI

46. The PRESIDENT said that draft decision XVI had been adopted by the Second (Social) Committee by a recorded vote of 31 to 1, with 17 abstentions.

A recorded vote was taken on draft decision XVI.

In favour: Bangladesh, Brazil, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, China, Colombia, Djibouti, Egypt, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Guinea, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Uganda, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zimbabwe.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Costa Rica, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela.

Draft decision XVI was adopted by 35 votes to 1, with 17 abstentions (decision 1986/148).

EXPLANATIONS OF VOTE

47. The PRESIDENT invited Council members to explain their votes.

48. Ms. UMAÑA (Colombia) said that if she had been present at the time of voting, she would have voted in favour of draft decisions IV and V.

49. Mr. ODOCH-JATO (Uganda) said he had abstained in the vote on draft decision II even though his delegation had been a sponsor of all the resolutions leading to the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief. The decision to appoint a special rapporteur was inappropriate, since the duties the special rapporteur would be asked to perform were already being carried out by other

bodies, including the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities.

50. He had voted in favour of draft decisions IV and V for purely procedural reasons. However, he would not have supported them had their texts been identical to those of the resolutions adopted on the same topics by the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-second session, since his delegation considered those texts to be unbalanced.

51. Mrs. MIGNOTT (Jamaica) said that her delegation had abstained in the vote on draft resolution XI because, as a member of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Drafting of an International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries, it preferred to await the outcome of that Committee's deliberations before according recognition to the concepts set out in the fourth preambular paragraph of the text just adopted. Furthermore, while the appointment of special rapporteurs had been a successful procedure in other instances, she could not support the request to appoint one for the purpose specified in paragraph 6. Her delegation did, however, associate itself fully with all other paragraphs of the resolution that had been adopted.

52. Mr. TELLE (France) said that his delegation had consistently condemned the activities of mercenaries. Unfortunately, the consensus which the international community had reached on that subject had been abandoned at the forty-second session of the Commission on Human Rights when the Commission had adopted its resolution 1986/26. The text submitted as draft resolution XI not only retained the exaggerated wording of that resolution, particularly in the fourth preambular paragraph, but also called for a misuse of the resources of the United Nations and overburdened the Commission on Human Rights by requesting the appointment of a special rapporteur. His delegation had consequently voted against the draft resolution.

53. His delegation had voted in favour of draft decision IX because it believed that the Commission on Human Rights should be entitled to hold additional meetings if necessary to discharge its onerous task. Given the budgetary difficulties facing the Organization, the Commission's effectiveness must be enhanced, particularly since more and more items bearing only the most tenuous connection to the promotion of human rights were being added to the Commission's agenda each year. His delegation therefore wished to propose a number of measures that might enable the Commission to continue to abide by the principles that had guided it for 40 years: the length of statements on political subjects not directly related to the Commission's mandate should be limited, as should the time allotted for rights of reply; the time given to observer delegations and non-governmental organizations should also be limited; the President should be given the power to invite delegations, after consultations with the other officers of the Commission, to withdraw any proposals not directly related to the Commission's mandate; and certain items on the Commission's agenda could be considered every other year rather than annually.

54. His delegation had voted in favour of draft decision X, but believed that the General Assembly's decision to postpone the 1986 session of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities would prevent the working

group specified in the decision from considering new communications. The working group might, however, continue to consider information currently before the Sub-Commission in accordance with the provisions of Council resolution 1503 (XLVIII).

55. Mr. LEE (Canada) said that Canada strongly condemned everything associated with mercenaries; however, draft resolution XI, on that subject, contained at least two elements which his delegation was unable to support. The fourth preambular paragraph of the adopted text recognized mercenarism as constituting a crime against humanity, a legal determination which he doubted the Council was empowered to make. Furthermore, mercenarism and genocide were two different concepts which should not be equated, as was done in the paragraph in question. The wording of the resolution just adopted actually appeared to diminish the horror the world felt at genocide. Finally, the decision in paragraph 6 to appoint a special rapporteur was inappropriate because it would interfere with the work of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Drafting of an International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries, particularly as the Committee had yet to define the term "mercenary". Thus, having opposed those two paragraphs when they had been put to a vote, his delegation had abstained in the vote on the draft resolution as a whole.

56. With regard to draft decision I, his delegation had, in meetings of the Second (Social) Committee, questioned the value any meeting of the Working Group of Governmental Experts on the Right to Development might have when the General Assembly had not yet reached a decision on that question. His delegation had abstained in the vote as an indication of its support for the text on that subject which had been proposed by the representative of Yugoslavia at the fortieth session of the General Assembly.

57. Finally, his delegation had voted in favour of draft decision IX, but wished to emphasize that the additional meetings of the Commission on Human Rights which had been authorized should not be used unless it was absolutely necessary to do so. He also urged the Chairman of the Commission to do everything possible to ensure that that body adhered to its timetable in 1987 and voiced support for the measures to organize the Commission's work more efficiently just proposed by the representative of France.

58. Mr. ABOU HADID (Syrian Arab Republic) said that, although his delegation had wished to vote against draft decision II, its vote had erroneously been recorded as an abstention. He requested that the error be corrected.

59. Mr. ZAHID (Morocco) said that, although his delegation had not objected to the adoption without a vote of draft decision XII, that did not mean that it accepted Commission on Human Rights resolution 1986/21 on the question of Western Sahara. His country's position, which had been expressed in General Assembly resolution 40/50, continued to be one of support for self-determination and for democratic consultation under United Nations auspices with a view to achieving a just and definitive solution of the question of Western Sahara.

60. Mrs. KIMATA (Japan) said that her delegation had voted against draft resolution XI because it felt

that any new element should be thoroughly discussed before it was incorporated in a resolution. The mandate of the special rapporteur referred to in paragraph 6 appeared to be very broad and ambiguous, and the financial implications of such an appointment needed consideration. The question of mercenaries was before the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly, and it appeared unwise that any other report should be undertaken before that Committee had completed its work. Her delegation had abstained in the voting on draft decision I because it believed that it would be premature to take a decision on a meeting of the Working Group of Governmental Experts on the Right to Development before the results of consideration of the draft declaration on the right to development were known. It was to be hoped that a full range of views would be expressed on that subject at the forty-first session of the General Assembly so that a text acceptable to all States might be drawn up. She also endorsed the statements made by the representative of France concerning rationalization of the work of the Commission on Human Rights.

61. Mr. SCHWANDT (Federal Republic of Germany) said that his delegation had abstained in the voting on draft decision I for the same reasons for which it had abstained in the vote on resolution 1986/15 of the Commission on Human Rights. A decision to convene a meeting of the Working Group of Governmental Experts on the Right to Development before the adoption by the General Assembly of a declaration on that subject was premature, and it also seemed unlikely that the Working Group could do any useful work if it were to be convened as early as January 1987. His delegation had been pleased to join the consensus on draft decision X since it attached great importance to action taken in pursuance of Economic and Social Council resolution 1503 (XLVIII). Such action was severely impaired by the deferment to 1987 of the thirty-ninth session of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, which constituted a severe blow to United Nations activities in the field of human rights. It was important that the adverse consequences of that deferment should be overcome rapidly so that the United Nations would be able to fulfil legitimate expectations relating to the promotion and encouragement of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all.

62. Mr. QUINN (Australia) said that his country had taken a vigorous stand against the activities of mercenaries, by, *inter alia*, enacting national legislation on the subject. However, it was his delegation's view that a draft resolution on such an important subject should have been introduced earlier in order to attract consensus, and he also expressed his country's reservations with respect to the unduly flexible definition of the term "crime against humanity" as used in draft resolution XI. His delegation had fully supported draft decision X, as a reflection of its commitment to the confidential procedures established by Council resolution 1503 (XLVIII). However, it was regrettable that the cancellation of the 1986 session of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities would prevent the consideration of many human rights communications until 1988. His delegation had supported draft resolution II and regretted the likely cancellation of the 1986 session of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations. With regard to

draft decision IX, his delegation shared the view that the organization of the work of the Commission on Human Rights should be given careful and critical consideration.

63. Mr. YAKOVLEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that particular attention had been devoted during the Council's first regular session of 1986 to efforts to attain the goals of the International Year of Peace. His delegation had supported the resolution adopted by the Council on that subject. In connection with the Council's decision to step up the struggle against *apartheid* and racism, his delegation strongly condemned the recent attack by South African racists on Zimbabwe, Botswana and Zambia and called for an immediate halt to the criminal policy of terrorism and violence pursued by the South African authorities. The call for comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against the South African régime under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations must be heeded and the criminal *apartheid* régime ended once and for all. The Council's resolution on the training and use of mercenaries was of particular significance in the world of today.

64. His delegation supported resolutions adopted by the Council which were designed to strengthen international co-operation in the field of human rights and had proposed the adoption of a resolution marking the twentieth anniversary of certain international instruments in that field. Universal accession to and compliance with such international instruments represented a major factor in international action to safeguard human rights and fundamental freedoms in accordance with the Charter. The Council's decision to step up efforts against genocide and Fascist dictatorial régimes was of current importance, and the Soviet delegation also supported the Council's measures to safeguard the right to life and the right to development and to realize the right to adequate housing.

65. His delegation accorded particular significance to the Council's resolutions and decisions concerning the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women. His country called for the total elimination of all forms of discrimination against women and the establishment of full equality for them in all areas of life. His country had also supported the activities of the United Nations to mark the occasion of the International Youth Year, as well as efforts to oppose the criminal activities of "big business" in the field of narcotic drugs, and supported the convening of an international conference on that subject in 1987.

66. The first regular session of 1986 of the Council had, unfortunately, been the arena of continued attempts by the imperialists to interfere in the internal affairs of sovereign States. The decisions on Afghanistan and the People's Republic of Kampuchea bore no relation to the defence of human rights, and the politically tendentious statements contained in the report of Mr. Ermacora clearly served the purposes of the imperialist policy of mercenary-aided aggression against Afghanistan. The peoples of both Afghanistan and the People's Republic of Kampuchea had embarked on the path of independent development and of radical socio-economic change with a view to achieving social justice and securing the human rights of the broadest masses of the population. Imperialist intervention in the affairs of those two countries must be halted.

67. Some decisions had, unfortunately, been taken by the Council without due regard for the financial situation of the United Nations and the recent decisions of the General Assembly on that subject. The Council should not permit duplication of work by different bodies in the preparation of studies.

68. In conclusion, the Soviet delegation expressed its support for decisions adopted by the Council concerning United Nations activities to combat *apartheid*, racism, militarism and gross violations of human rights, as well as action to strengthen international co-operation for the achievement of equality for women and the solution of international social problems.

The meeting was suspended at 1.05 p.m. and reconvened at 3.35 p.m.

69. Mr. KYRÖLÄINEN (Finland), speaking on behalf of his own delegation and those of Iceland and Sweden, the Nordic members of the Council, said that they had abstained in the vote on draft resolution XI on the use of mercenaries. In particular, they could not support the fourth preambular paragraph, in which mercenarism was termed a crime against humanity; nor could they support paragraph 3. Furthermore, they felt that it was premature to urge the Commission on Human Rights to appoint a special rapporteur, as was done in paragraph 6: the question should first have been considered in the Commission itself. The Nordic members of the Council also wished to point out that the Sixth Committee and the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Drafting of an International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries were considering the same issue. The Council should avoid a duplication of their work.

70. Miss BOGÄRDE (Sweden), speaking on behalf of the Nordic members of the Council, said that they had abstained in the vote on draft decision I on the right to development. Their position had been stated the previous year. Her delegation had opposed the decision to refer the question to the General Assembly; it had also opposed the convening of the Working Group to discuss the subject before agreement had been reached on a definition of the right to development. The General Assembly had not been in a position to adopt a decision on the matter. The position of the Nordic delegations therefore remained the same as in 1985.

71. Speaking on behalf of her own delegation with reference to draft decision XIV on the right of peoples to self-determination, she said that it had supported various General Assembly resolutions on Kampuchea which affirmed the principles that should be the basis for the settlement of the Kampuchean conflict. Sweden's concern for the humanitarian problems arising out of the conflict were well known. Her delegation had supported draft decision XIV, the first paragraph of which fully endorsed Commission on Human Rights resolution 1986/25. However, it could not subscribe to every formulation in that resolution.

72. Lastly, referring to draft decision X concerning the establishment of a working group of the Commission to examine situations referred to the Commission under Economic and Social Council resolution 1503 (XLVIII), her delegation had expressed its satisfaction in the Second (Social) Committee with the progress made in the United Nations and the Commission in standard-setting in the field of hu-

man rights. However, it had regretted that the Commission's achievements in implementing those standards were not equally impressive.

73. The confidential consideration of situations in certain countries was an important instrument in monitoring those human rights violations. That procedure had been established by Council resolution 1503 (XLVIII), and her delegation continued to support it. In carrying out its work, the Commission depended on the preparatory work of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, and her delegation therefore deeply regretted the decision to postpone the Sub-Commission's 1986 session because of financial considerations. She hoped that such a measure would not have to be repeated in future years.

74. Mr. WAKE (United States of America), speaking in explanation of his delegation's position on draft decision X, underlined the importance of preserving and even strengthening the confidential proceedings of the Commission on Human Rights as a tool for considering human rights violations brought to the attention of the United Nations by private persons. If the Sub-Commission did not meet before the February 1987 session of the Commission, the Commission and its working group would be unable to examine such particular situations "as might be referred to the Commission by the Sub-Commission . . . at its thirty-ninth session under Council resolution 1503 (XLVIII)", as stated in the text just adopted. However, the working group would continue to examine situations of which the Commission was already seized and would thus play an important role in providing guidance to the Commission for follow-up action and further monitoring, if necessary, of decisions taken by the Commission at its most recent session under Council resolution 1503 (XLVIII). His delegation therefore welcomed the adoption by consensus of draft decision X.

75. His delegation emphasized its continuing support for the operation of the procedures under Council resolution 1503 (XLVIII). Any disruption of their operation was an exceptional measure because of the immediate financial situation. Over the long term, victims of human rights violations and their representatives should be assured that their communications to the United Nations would not be ignored.

76. Lastly, his delegation enthusiastically welcomed the suggestions made by other delegations during the earlier part of the meeting for the rationalization of the Commission's work. He hoped that serious attention would be paid to them.

77. Miss YOUNG (United Kingdom) said that, while deploring any recruitment or use of mercenaries, her delegation had been obliged to vote against draft resolution XI on the use of mercenaries. Her delegation regretted that the sponsors had moved away from the consensus language achieved in the past in the General Assembly; that situation would not facilitate the work of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Drafting of an International Convention on the question. The suggestion that the Commission on Human Rights should consider appointing a special rapporteur while the work of that Committee was still in progress was not appropriate. Her delegation regretted that the Council should be encouraging the overlap of work being undertaken by the General Assembly. It was not sensible for the Council to

impose further burdens on the very heavy agenda of the Commission by adopting a resolution which went further than the Commission's own resolution 1986/26.

78. Her delegation had also voted against the fourth preambular paragraph of draft resolution XI, since it purported to define mercenarism before there was an agreed definition of that term at the international level.

79. Mr. LINDGREN (Brazil) said that his delegation had voted in favour of draft resolution XI because it was deeply concerned by the problem of the recruitment and use of mercenaries. It had voted against the fourth preambular paragraph of that text for technical reasons which it had already explained in the Commission on Human Rights when resolution 1986/26 was being adopted. His delegation was not sure whether, juridically, mercenarism could be equated with genocide, and it was doubtful whether it could be qualified as a crime against humanity. The latter question was being studied by the International Law Commission and, pending the completion of its study, Brazil had systematically limited the use of the term to a sufficiently clear context.

80. His delegation had supported paragraph 6 of the draft resolution, but considered that the Commission on Human Rights should be very cautious in choosing the special rapporteur and in specifying his functions, in order to avoid that position becoming yet another instrument for East-West confrontation.

81. Mr. AKYOL (Turkey) said he regretted that his delegation had been unable to vote in favour of draft resolution XI, which he feared could adversely affect the work of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Drafting of an International Convention on the subject.

82. Mr. CHIKETA (Zimbabwe) said that, before draft decision X had been adopted, the positions of the French, Canadian and many other delegations on the rationalization of the agenda item should have been taken into consideration. Care should be taken in rationalizing the item to ensure that justice was done and to avoid repetition and the downgrading of the issue.

83. Care should also be taken to ensure that documents were circulated to delegations six weeks before the Commission on Human Rights met. Failure to do so resulted in delegations registering to speak at the end of the consideration of each item, so that work was not completed on time. Furthermore, in adopting the draft decision, the Council was violating the decision just taken by the General Assembly to restrict meetings. Some delegations were not even able to participate in the Commission's meetings since they did not have the financial means to send delegations to Geneva. The Council should try to ensure that all delegations which wished to attend were able to do so. He also wished to point out that night meetings placed smaller delegations at a disadvantage.

84. Lastly, he felt that the views of the French delegation with regard to the participation of non-governmental organizations should be taken into consideration.

85. Mr. SISOWATH (Observer for Democratic Kampuchea) said that the overwhelming support for draft decision XIV proved that the international community was not indifferent to flagrant violations of the right of the Kampuchean people to self-determination. All Viet Nam's claims about the

situation were propaganda to cover its crimes in Kampuchea.

86. He expressed his gratitude to the sponsors of draft decision XIV and those who had supported it, and also to the members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), particularly Thailand, which continued, with exemplary compassion and solidarity, to bear the burden of harbouring Kampuchean refugees.

87. Viet Nam's refusal to heed the call of the international community to withdraw its forces and its rejection of the eight-point proposal put forward by the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea, contained in document A/41/225, for a comprehensive and equitable solution to the problem showed that its claimed desire to find a political solution was not sincere and that it only wished to perpetuate the situation. Viet Nam claimed that it was rejecting a proposal that would allocate only one quarter of the power to the régime it had installed because that régime was the sole legitimate representative of Kampuchea and controlled the whole country. If that was the case, he wondered why Vietnamese forces were present in Kampuchea and why Viet Nam was afraid of free, general elections, supervised by the United Nations, which would allow the Kampuchean people to exercise their right to self-determination.

88. Viet Nam's claims were untrue: without the support of Hanoi, the régime could not survive. In addition to the presence of its army, Viet Nam had installed a so-called Kampuchean Working Committee which had been manipulating the puppet régime.

Viet Nam was building up its war machinery in order to attain its strategic goal of forming an Indo-Chinese federation under its domination. Its annexation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and its invasion of Kampuchea, and the settlement of 700,000 Vietnamese nationals on Kampuchean territory, were sufficient evidence of that strategy. That had been a goal of the Communist Party of Viet Nam for more than half a century; its manifesto attested to that ambition. Moreover, the Commander-in-Chief of the Vietnamese forces in Kampuchea had recently described Indo-China as a single battlefield.

89. The root of the Kampuchean problem lay in the Vietnamese strategy of swallowing up Kampuchea against the will of its people. But Kampuchea was becoming more and more difficult to swallow up and Viet Nam was facing increasing problems in Kampuchea as well as at home and in the international forum. The patriotism of the Kampuchean people under Prince Norodom Sihanouk, President of Democratic Kampuchea, had been strengthened by international support such as the decision adopted at the current meeting. Only a political solution based on the eight-point proposal of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea could lead to an independent, peaceful and non-aligned Kampuchea while at the same time allowing Viet Nam to regain its place among the civilized nations and focus on rebuilding its own country. Only then could South-East Asia be considered a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality.

The meeting rose at 4.10 p.m.

20th meeting

Friday, 23 May 1986, at 4.10 p.m.

President: Mr. Manuel DOS SANTOS (Mozambique)

E/1986/SR.20

AGENDA ITEM 15

Consideration of the provisional agenda for the second regular session of 1986 (E/1986/79, E/1986/L.26)

1. Mr. SEVAN (Secretary of the Council), introducing the note by the Secretariat on agenda item 15 (E/1986/L.26), said that in drawing up the suggested organization of work for the second regular session of 1986 account had been taken of the suggestions made by members of the Bureau.

2. Two additional elements would be included in the annotations to the provisional agenda of the second regular session, based on decisions taken at the current session. Under item 3, entitled "General discussion of international economic and social policy, including regional and sectoral developments", the Council had decided at its 16th meeting to have as the priority item "The interrelated issues of money, finance, resource flows, debt, trade, raw materials and development" with the understanding that "raw materials" comprised all materials, including "energy". It would therefore be included in the annotations. Pursuant to any decision which might

be taken by the General Assembly at its resumed fortieth session, on the recommendation of its Second Committee, to transmit the revised informal working paper entitled "Interrelated issues of money, finance, debt, resource flows, trade and development" to the Council at its second regular session for consideration and negotiations, with a view to reporting thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-first session, that document would also be included under item 3, together with the report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination's Task Force on Long-term Development Objectives on policy changes for long-term growth and development.

3. In accordance with the decision taken at the 19th meeting, those parts of the report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its thirty-first session relating to the Commission's response to General Assembly resolution 40/204, namely, draft resolution X, entitled "Updating of the world survey on the role of women in development", would be considered by the Council under item 7.

4. Under item 18, entitled "Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance", the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the medium-term and long-term recovery and

rehabilitation programme in the Sudano-Sahelian region had inadvertently been listed in the basic programme of work for 1986. According to General Assembly resolution 40/209 on desertification and drought, that report would not be discussed until 1987.

5. The Council had decided at its 16th meeting to invite delegations, in their deliberations at the second regular session of 1986, to give special focus to the comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development as well as human resources for development and the role of technical co-operation in strengthening public management capacities. That would be taken up under item 19, "Operational activities for development". The Secretariat had informed the Bureau that, in addition to the report of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation on the comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development, it would make available to the Council any decisions relating to human resources for development which the Governing Council of UNDP might have adopted at its June session, as well as the relevant documentation submitted to the Governing Council.

6. Under item 20, "International co-operation and co-ordination within the United Nations system", he said that, in accordance with the decision taken at the 19th meeting, the parts of the report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its thirty-first session relating to the Commission's response to Council resolution 1985/46, namely, draft resolution XVII, entitled "System-wide medium-term plan for women and development and system-wide co-ordination of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women", would be considered by the Council under that item.

7. With regard to the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies, specifically the draft annex relating to the United Nations Industrial Development Organization contained in document E/1986/45, the Council had decided to delete paragraph 3 of the draft annex and to defer consideration of the remaining parts until the second regular session. Accordingly, that, too, would be taken up under item 20. There would be an additional item, item 23, entitled "Elections", since some elections had had to be deferred at the current session.

8. Referring to the note by the Secretariat (E/1986/L.26), he drew attention to paragraph 4 and, particularly, to paragraph 5, in which the provisions that had been made for services at the second regular session were explained. He drew attention to paragraph 10, in which it was noted that the date proposed for the conclusion of the work of the sessional committees was 17 July.

9. Finally, he drew attention to the note by the Secretary-General on an international year for mobilization of financial and technological resources to increase food and agricultural production in Africa, and to the proposal contained in the note that the Council should postpone consideration of the report to its second regular session of 1987.

10. The PRESIDENT said that the Bureau intended to keep the programme of work under constant review throughout the second regular session so that adjustments could be made, as necessary. It was the

understanding of the Bureau that, should circumstances warrant it, the Council could have conference facilities beyond 23 July, up to 25 July.

11. Mr. LEE (Canada) asked to what extent the proposals under consideration represented the one-week cut-back in meetings proposed by the General Assembly for the second regular session of the Council. He wondered whether more time had been allowed for discussion of certain items that would not require lengthy debate than was called for in the light of the biennialization of the programme of work and the financial restrictions.

12. Mr. FIELD (United Kingdom), speaking on behalf of his own delegation and those of France and Italy, regretted that the agenda did not conform to the Secretary-General's proposals concerning the current financial crisis of the United Nations (A/40/1102). He had noted the President's comments on flexibility with regard to the work of the second regular session and agreed that the session should be shortened if possible.

13. Speaking on behalf only of his own delegation, he said that the Council might consider adopting the arrangement currently in operation in the Second Committee of the General Assembly, whereby the work of the two sub-committees was divided on an *ad hoc* basis.

14. Mr. FAREED (Pakistan) said that he was not aware of a decision by the General Assembly to curtail the second regular session of the Council by one week. The President of the General Assembly had stated that he had been happy to observe that the Council had already taken action, referring to the number of meetings by which the current session of the Council had been reduced. It was his delegation's understanding that for the next session the Council would do what it could to cut down on meetings but that there was no specific target to be attained.

15. He was also a little concerned because, with the same number of items on its agenda and many problems still unsolved, the Council would have to attend to those problems in a reduced number of meetings. His delegation would make every attempt to finish work according to the proposed schedule but, in view of the reduced number of meetings and of the reduced opportunities for holding informal consultations, it might be that the second regular session would end at the later rather than at the earlier date proposed.

16. Mr. PIRSON (Belgium) said that he did not share the concern of the representative of Pakistan that there would not be enough time. Three teams of interpreters would be available for three weeks; that would allow work to proceed satisfactorily both in the plenary meetings and in the groups. His delegation was grateful to the Bureau and the Secretariat for having made an effort to reduce the second regular session of the Council to some extent. However, he would like the Council to consider the possibility of having the First (Economic) and the Third (Programme and Co-ordination) Committees finish their work on 17 July as foreseen and of holding the last plenary meetings to consider their reports and recommendations on 19 July. He hoped that with a little extra effort the session could end on 21 July.

17. Mr. MALIK (India) said that the session could finish at the end of the first week if the Belgian delegation and several others would agree to consensus decisions on texts drafted in the first week

without changing them too much. The Council must have sufficient time to negotiate. He was concerned that, although it was necessary to reduce the workload, the realities of the situation should be respected.

18. Mr. LAVROV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) supported the recommendations of the Bureau to try to complete work by 23 July, while bearing in mind that facilities would be available, if necessary, until 25 July.

19. Mr. SEVAN (Secretary of the Council) said that if the session were to last from 2 to 25 July, as originally scheduled, it would consist of 17 1/2 working days. It was therefore inaccurate to speak of a four-week session. If it were to end on 23 July, as proposed, it would consist of 15 1/2 working days. As to whether the proposals represented a one-week cut-back in meetings, he said that if the Council were to meet for a full week with full interpretation services it would mean providing services for 30 meetings. The proposed programme of work provided for only six meetings in the final week up to 23 July, which meant a reduction of 24 meetings. It should also be noted that, according to the proposed programme of work, the two committees would utilize fully the services provided during the first week of the session; in previous years that had not been the case.

20. Mr. LEE (Canada) inquired whether the Secretariat could give more information with regard to items which his delegation had suggested could be given less attention.

21. Mr. SEVAN (Secretary of the Council) said that it was not always possible to foresee the response on certain items. He considered that the President's suggestion that the schedule of work be kept under review during the session would provide sufficient flexibility to tighten the agenda further, if appropriate.

22. Mr. LAVROV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that he did not think that the Secretary had answered fully the question put by the representative of Canada with regard to other possibilities of lightening the work-load of the second regular session. It would be possible to lighten that load if extra items—for example, the two items arising from the report of the Commission on the Status of Women—were not included on the agenda for the second regular session. He suggested that the Council could support the recommendation of the Bureau that the Council should attempt to conclude its work by 23 July, on the understanding that it could continue until 25 July if required.

23. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to revert to the matter raised in the note by the Secretariat (E/1986/79) concerning the report of the Secretary-General on an international year for the mobilization of financial and technological resources to increase

food and agricultural production in Africa. In that connection, he proposed that the Council should decide to request the Secretary-General to submit the report on an international year for the mobilization of financial and technological resources to increase food and agricultural production in Africa, called for in General Assembly resolution 38/198 of 20 December 1983 and Council decision 1985/199, to the General Assembly at its forty-second session, through the Council at its second regular session of 1987.

24. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the proposal, on the understanding that the Secretariat would give it its final form.

It was so decided (decision 1986/149).

25. Mr. SEVAN (Secretary of the Council) said that at the current session 15 plenary meetings had been held out of a total of 24 allocated and the Second (Social) Committee had held 20 meetings out of 24 allocated. On that basis, he would suggest that it would be more than sufficient in future to allocate 45 meetings to the first regular session of the Council, instead of 114.

26. The Council had not met once in its own Chamber during the current session for reasons of space, since the number of observers had grown considerably. In the light of that situation, he wondered whether it would not be possible to switch the names of the Economic and Social Council Chamber and the Trusteeship Council Chamber in which the Council had been meeting.

27. Mr. DUN (United Kingdom) requested that his delegation's statement on document E/1986/L.26 should be regarded as a formal statement before action was taken on the matter and should be treated accordingly in the report of the Council.

28. The PRESIDENT proposed that the Council should approve the draft provisional agenda for the second regular session of 1986 (see E/1986/L.26), as orally revised, and the proposed organization of work for that session, bearing in mind the clarifications provided by the Secretary and the President of the Council.

29. If he heard no objections, he would take it that the Council wished to approve the proposal, on the understanding that the Secretariat would give it its final form.

It was so decided (decision 1986/151).

Closure of the session

30. After the usual exchange of courtesies, the PRESIDENT declared the first regular session of 1986 of the Economic and Social Council closed.

The meeting rose at 5.10 p.m.

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